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REPORTED PLOT AGAINST ALFONSIN TERMED 'NONSENSE'

PY291835 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1732 GMT 29 Jan 85

[By special NA correspondent]

[Text] Athens, 29 Jan (NA) -- Sources close to the people responsible for the security of President Raul Alfonsin have termed as "nonsense" the report of an alleged attack against the head of state that commandos had reportedly planned to carry out in New Delhi. The sources that were queried during the president's flight from New Delhi to Athens said that this information was absolutely untrue and stated that "it is completely groundless."

The source stated that the publication of a report by the British news agency REUTER by Indian newspapers yesterday afternoon on the existence of an alleged plot to kill Alfonsin "does not deserve any type of comment or action" on the part of the people responsible for Alfonsin's security. According to that report, the existence of a plot that reportedly was to be carried out by four commandos for the purpose of killing President Alfonsin was uncovered in New Delhi.

Asked whether there was any concern vis-a-vis this report, other sources close to Alfonsin stated that "there were no repercussions." It was learned from sources close to Alfonsin's security that no communication has been received from the Indian secret service on evidence of the alleged plot.

FORMER ADMIRAL RULES OUT ARMED FORCES COUP

PY292141 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Jan 85 p 7

[Text] (DYN) -- Mar del Plata -- The former commander of the Ushuaia Naval Base during the Malvinas war, Rear Admiral Horacio Zaratiegui, said here yesterday most of the Armed Forces were not in favour of a coup at the present moment, but he believed some government measures could cause the situation to change. In statements to the press, Zaratiegui quoted restrictions to the military budget and what he described as the persecution of Navy Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz as two of such measures. He also claimed there was no more press freedom at present than during the former military regime because the media was being used for the government's own ends. He said he had publicly claimed the Armed Forces arrogant when they were in power, but he believed the Radical goverment now was just as arrogant. Zaratiegui also claimed reports on an alleged secret understanding between Britain and Chile during the Malvinas war were 95 percent true and said this was proven by the deployment of Chile's three Armed Forces during the 1982 war.

Vice President Responds

PY300206 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1850 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Jan (DYN) -- Vice President Victor Martinez, who is acting president, today rejected the possibility that the Armed Forces have any coup plans, just as was stated by (retired) Rear Admiral Horacio Zaratiegui, former commander of the southern base during the Malvinas war. Victor Martinez noted: "The Armed Forces understand that we are confronting difficult times and that the measures that are being implemented are general in nature, and not sectorial ones exlusively pertaining to the Armed Forces." The vice president made this statement when answering a question about Zaratiegui's comments, which were published today by the local media. Zaratiegui's warned that "there is no intention" by the military of staging a coup d'etat, but he added that "I am concerned over the fact that unknowingly the government is adopting measures that in the end may change that attitude."

Martinez stated that the anti-coup stand of the Armed Forces "will not change." Answering a question, he said that Defense Minister Raul Borras will be in charge of reviewing Zaratiegui's statement and that it will be up to him to decide what measures will be adopted.

OIL ENTERPRISE TO PROCESS SOVIET CRUDE OIL

PY300232 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0055 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Mendoza, 29 Jan (TELAM) -- Government Oil Deposits [YPF] Chairman Hector Fiorioli stated here today that the enterprise has a plan to export by-products which in 1984 enabled Argentina to export a total of $350 million worth of oil by-products while it only imported $30 million worth of kerosene JP-1. Fiorioli added that he believes that this export total will be repeated this year, but that it all depends on domestic needs.

As for oil imports of Soviet origin, the YPF chairman noted that we do not need a single cubic meter of crude to meet our supply. He added that YPF will purchase $70 million worth of oil from the Soviet Union and $77 million in equipment, but he explained that the hydrocarbons that are purchased from the Soviet Union will not be used for domestic consumption, but will be processed. We have idle capacity in our refineries, so we will send it to our refineries on the Parana River, he said.

ENERGY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY291625 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 27 Jan 85 p 20

[Interview with Energy Planning Under Secretary Jorge Lapena -- date and place not given]

[Excerpt] Energy Planning Under Secretary Jorge Lapena talked to CLARIN about nuclear energy within the framework of the government's overall program.

[Question] What place does the nuclear program have in the energy program currently being drawn up?

[Lepena] The Energy Secretariat is currently drawing up an overall energy program in which the production of the nuclear plants will be coordinated with the rest of the planned energy output in order to balance the energy supply in keeping with our available energy resources. In the electrical field preference is given to the use of renewable energy sources, especially the hydroelectric sources, but in the case of the nonrenewable sources preference is given to those sources that have a longer productive life.

In this sense it is estimated that by the decade starting in 1990 considerable progress will have been made in the supply of electricity produced by hydroelectric plants, mainly due to the start of operations of the Piedra de Aguila plant, with a production of 1,400 megawatts (the beginning of the construction of this plant is scheduled for early 1985), and the Yacyreta plant which will produce 2,700 megawatts (construction of this plant is already under way and it is estimated that it will become operational in 1991).

Regarding future nuclear plants, that is, those that will become operational after the Atucha II plant, they will be planned in conjunction with the hydroelectric plants, seeking to maintain our country's development in the nuclear field since, undeniably, we are one of the Third World leaders in this field.

[Question] Do the changes in the 1985 nuclear budget mean a change in the overall energy program?

[Lepena] The 1985 energy budget grants priority treatment to the continuation of energy projects already under way so that they become operational on the scheduled dates. In this field the Atucha II plant has made considerable progress, 45 percent of this project has been completed, and should become operational in 1990.

[Question] Will the hydroelectric projects be postponed in favor of the nuclear ones?

[Lepena] According to what I have just told you, definitely not.

CLARIN INTERVIEWS FORMER CNEA DIRECTOR

PY291750 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 27 Jan 85 p 21

[Interview with former National Commission for Atomic Energy Chairman Oscar Quihillalt -- date and place not given]

[Text] Oscar Quihillalt, a former National Commission for Atomic Energy [CNEA] chairman and currently the head of Nuclar, a consortium made up of the entities Sade, Desaci, Tauro, and Macchi Argentina to deal in nuclear projects, has granted an interview to CLARIN to discuss the status of the nuclear sector.

[Question] Argentina possesses the cycle for the production of nuclear fuel. Is that a decisive step in making use of the advantages provided by nuclear technology?

[Quihillalt] There are countries like Canada, which is well advanced in nuclear technology, that do not complete the cycle for the production of nuclear fuel but leave it open. The United States does not complete the cycle either because it does not reprocess. No, it is not a decisive step.

[Question] What fact plays a decisive role then?

[Quihillalt] To have the political-economical capability.

[Question] But Argentina does not have such a capability now, does it?

[Quihillalt] That is relative; everything depends on the possibilities that a country may have. Argentina has achieved some progress. It has trained personnel and has some facilities...now it must advance, implementing a nuclear energy program, something which is now lacking.

[Question] How come? Isn't there a nuclear program that was outlined 5 years ago?

[Quihillalt] The existing program (which was drafted in 1979 under the administration of Carlos Castro Madero) has become truncated. The first nuclear power plant under this program (Atucha II) is 3 years behind schedule. A second power plant under this program should be under construction, but it is not. We do not have a program. And a new one cannot be improvised. It is essential to have economic support. Does Argentina have such support today? Hardly. Will there be an improvement in the future with more funds available? To what extent? I do not know, and I believe that these are questions that the CNEA chairman ought to answer.

[Question] Where does the financial income of the private enterprises which deal in nuclear technology come from? From the contracts for works with the CNEA or from research and development?

[Quihillalt] Primarily from contracts for works and engineering. Installations and welding jobs are also carried out...

[Question] It is being said that the personnel used in the nuclear field are highly qualified. How much does it cost to train such personnel?

[Quihillalt] Lots of money. Here is an example. Let us take a first-rate welder who is working in the autombile industry. This welder must take a 6-month course which will train him and determine whether he can handle the job. If he can, he must obtain a license that must be periodically renewed and only then can he become a nuclear welder. This is not true in other industries. There are other workers that must be sent abroad, with the goal of using them in this or that construction project in the nuclear program. And what do we do now? We do not know when we will be using the know-how of those workers.

[Question] Given the technological capabilities of the nuclear industry, it is being said that at this time there are enterprises which, vis-a vis the lack of work, easily undertake other types of activities. Is this actually taking place?

[Quilhillalt] Not yet, but we are getting close to it. The biggest problem is that we are not being paid. They are several months behind in payment. A contract works as follows: We work a fortnight or a month and then we present a certificate that usually takes 1 and 1/2 months to process. This is a debt and we must be paid, but we are not being paid. In addition, we must pay wages and expenses regularly. There is not enough money and it is a mess to go to the banks.... This does not hurt us as far as investments in capital assets are concerned because we are already equipped, but workers are being dismissed and our workers represent an important investment. In 1983 we had some 1,300 persons working in this enterprise and now we have only 300. By the end of 1984, we suspended work, something that especially had repercussions on Atucha II. One or two other enterprises which are engaged in construction work have fired people. The Construction Workers Union of the Argentine Republic took action and a week ago we held a meeting in Congress. This was published by the newspapers. The meeting lasted from 1500 to 2030. We were promised 300 million pesos, which are readily available. A record was drafted. The personnel were reinstated. The record was signed. We sang the national anthem. And the money? I do not know about it yet.

[Question] Is it feasible for Argentina to export nuclear technology?

[Quihillalt] This is very difficult. Everybody wants to export and it is essential to have financing, let's say, for 15 years plus 6 years grace period and a 7.5-percent interest rate per annum in dollars. I have already talked to the vice president of the Central Bank (Leopoldo Gortnoy), but where does Argentina get that money if the credits that it secures are more expensive?

[Question] There are people who say that if Argentina signs the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty or the Tlatelolco Treaty they would assist in financing exports in this field.

[Quihillalt] That is a lie. If we sign those treaties, like the rest did, they will say: Let us compete now. But nobody will give anything away.

[Question] Is it possible to catch up with the delay in Atucha II?

[Quihillalt] An extraordinary funding will be necessary, a funding that exceeds the one currently earmarked for it, in order to complete it in 1989.

DEFENSE MINISTER SCORES GENERAL'S ACTIONS

PY291815 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas Mallo has staed that the series of statements by political parties and also by some retired military officers are aimed at provoking a rebellion within the Armed Forces in order to jeopardize the democratic process. Cardenas Mallo made this statement while accompanied by the information minister after a meeting with President Hernan Siles Zuazo. His statement was prompted by a statement by General Jose Olvias Arias Chaves, recently dismissed from his post as commander of the Army, that was published by the media.

The defense minister explained that the Armed Forces are aware of the situation the country is enduring and at the same time are concerned over the mentioned statements.

The following is the statement that Minister Cardenas Mallo made to the journalists at Government House regarding this subject:

[Begin recording -- broadcast in process] [Cardenas] ...Personal and institutional statements of a subversive nature. Yesterday and today you must nave seen communiques issued by political parties as well as letters and other documents seeking publicity which tend to cause an institutional unrest to create a focus of tension within the Armed Forces. We believe that all these documents are directly aimed at creating internal rebellion in the Armed Forces.

On several occasions the democratic government has stated and insisted that the elections will be held in compliance with the schedule and deadline established as a peaceful solution to the democratic process and in order to find a resolution to the crisis which the country is enduring.

[Reporter] Are some discussions or measures being taken to stop this series of irregular activities?

[Cardenas] Well, the [words indistinct] the people should know what is really happening, and that is the government's duty. People are trying to take advantage of the situation and, I repeat, an attempt to find a focus of unrest within the Armed Forces is being made so that a difficult confrontation with the democratic government may stem from within the Armed Forces.

[Reporter] Last week the interior minister announced that it [words indistinct] some severe measures against these communiques.

[Cardenas] All measures are taken in compliance with the law, within the provisions of the Constitution. In the case of [words indistinct] for example, he is subject to Article No 130, since he openly incites subversion through the document. All these events are handled in compliance with the Constitution. [end recording]

Government To Take Legal Action

PY291800 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] This is the latest report on the Olvis Arias case. The national government is going to take legal actions against General Jose Olvias Arias, who in the past few hours released a declaration which has been labeled by the national government as an open call to break the order established in the country. This announcement was made a few minutes ago at Government House by Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata at the conclusion of a meeting with the president.

[Begin Alvarez recording] We are going to start legal action as a result of a series of publications which are absolutely an open incitation to subversion here in Bolivia. As we said on previous occasions we are going to enforce the law of our country. [end recording]

GUZMAN GRANTED PASSPORT; LEAVES FOR PARAGUAY

PY281854 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The government has granted a passport to former Colonel [as heard] Ernesto Guzman Fricke so that he may leave the country and travel to Paraguay or some other Latin American country. This information was disclosed by the Foreign Ministry. The Foreign Ministry, through a communique issued this morning, explained that the government had granted the passport requested by Colonel Guzman Fricke, who traveled to the Paraguayan capital on Saturday.

FLOUR FACTORY WORKERS STRIKE; BREAD, MEAT SHORTAGE

PY291400 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Industry and Commerce Minister Hugo Montero Mur has blamed striking factory workers for the shortage of bread. The problem is very serious in La Paz due to the insensitivity of the union leaders who without taking into account the consequences ordered the flour mill workers to stop working.

Hugo Montero also praised the responsibility of factory workers in many cities throughout the country who on their own declared a state of emergency in the flour mills so that they can continue producing flour to bake bread. The minister pointed out that there is bread in other cities, but not in La Paz, therefore he appealed to union leaders to show more sense in light of the current situation.

The minister also announced that an agreement was reached with meat producers and that now that an official price has been established there will be meat for sale again in the markets. As everyone knows this has not happened. The people are suffering from the lack of meat and housewives know that the official announcement has not been fulfilled. The minister answered the following question posed by Radio Panamericana: How come there is no meat in the markets?

[Begin Montero recording] The middlemen are the ones creating problems. We reached a concrete agreement with meat producers, the cattlemen who slaughter the cattle, and we also established a reasonable profit for middlemen. The middlemen do not want reasonables prices, they want to speculate with prices. [end recording]

MIR DIRECTORATE MEETS; THREE FACTIONS EMERGE

PY281806 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The National Directorate of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] held an important meeting in Sucre on 26 and 27 January. The MIR directorate will submit some proposals and recommendations to the second national MIR council meeting to be held in Cochabamba on 8 and 9 February. It has been disclosed that the MIR has split up into three factions: the MIR labor front headed by Walter Delgadillo, the faction headed by Jaime Paz Zamora, and the one headed by Antonio Aranibar.

NEVES VISITS PORTUGAL, MEETS PRIME MINISTER

For Lisbon coverage of the visit to Portugal by President-elect Tancredo Neves and his meetings with Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares, see the Portugal section of the 30 January Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

CUBAN MINISTER PROPOSES REESTABLISHING RELATIONS

PY292212 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1955 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Brasilia, 29 Jan (EFE) -- Minister Hector Rodriguez, member of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, today proposed that diplomatic relations be reestablished between Brasilia and Havana.

There is no real reason, Rodriguez observed, not to reestablish relations, because the two countries have common interests and cultural bonds. Therefore, the resumption of relations depends on the two countries' own decisions.

The Brazilian military government broke diplomatic relations with the regime of Fidel Castro in July 1964 because Cuba was allegedly interfering in Brazil's internal affairs.

Rodriguez publicly proposed that relations be resumed during his stay in Brazil to attend the 11th meeting of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) ministerial committee that is being held in Rio de Janeiro. He expressed his satisfaction at this historic moment when the people's will has been reasserted through the election of Tancredo Neves as president of Brazil.

Sectors of the Brazilian political left favor normalizing relations between Brasilia and Havana, as does the Liberal Front, which is part of the Democratic Alliance that supports Tancredo Neves.

During the electoral campaign, the president-elect was very terse when referring to the question of relations with Cuba and preferred to refer it to the area of national security and the Foreign Ministry.

In the opinion of observers, Neves, who is an experienced politician, apparently prefers to sidestep the question to avoid touching on the sensitivities of hardline sectors in the Army.

DEBT RISES 9.4 PERCENT TO $100.2 BILLION IN 1984

PY241207 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The Brazilian foreign debt has reached $100.2 billion. Of this amount, $92.3 billion corresponds to medium- and long-term loans, and $7.9 billion to short-term loans. In 1984, the debt rose by 9.4 percent. This year, it may rise by half that amount, growing by $4.2 billion. The balance of payments deficit, which was $500 million last year, will become a $100-million surplus in 1985. This information was supplied by the Finance Ministry to President-elect Tancredo Neves, who will analyze it during his trip abroad.

In 1984, the rate of growth of federal revenue was 3 percent lower than the inflation rate. Federal revenue amounted to 34.8 trillion cruzeiros in 1984.

OAS ENVOY RESIGNS, CITES POLICY DISAGREEMENT

PY300130 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The Chilean representative to the OAS, Monica Madariaga, has resigned her post after two interviews she granted to QUE PASA and COSAS magazines in which she questioned the Chilean Government's policies. Madariaga, who had been considered close to Pinochet, with whom she served as a cabinet member for 8 years, said that she submitted her resignation yesterday and that the government accepted it. She declined to comment on the political situation in Chile, telling U.S. journalists that the problems of Chile are to be solved in Chile, and so I will discuss them in Chile.

In her interview in QUE PASA magazine, Madariaga had asked the Pinochet regime, quote, to make an effort to reconcile its differences with the opposition, unquote. She told QUE PASA: I don't know whether he or I have matured, but I believe that we have drifted apart in our views on the situation and the way the government should be conducted. Asked whether she was forced to resign over the magazine interviews, Madariaga replied: You can draw your own conclusions. A diplomatic observer noted that last year, despite what was happening in Chile, there were no attacks on Chile in the OAS Council because Madariaga has a strong personality and is respected.

Meanwhile in Chile, the Foreign Ministry has issued a brief communique confirming the news from Washington that Monico Madariaga has resigned.

[Begin report from the Foreign Ministry by Patricia Rodriguez]

The Chilean ambassador to the OAS, Monica Madariaga, has submitted her resignation. This information was today confirmed by the Foreign Ministry in a communique handed out by Foreign Ministry spokesman Marcelo Padilla, which states: Mrs Monica Madariaga has submitted her resignation from the post of permanent ambassador of Chile to the OAS to be effective 1 February. Her resignation has been accepted through Decree 86 of this ministry. [end report]

JARPA: NO DECISION ON STATE OF SIEGE EXTENSION

PY291750 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa was questioned about domestic matters. Concerning the possibility of making the state of siege more flexible, Jarpa mentioned the return of some banished people to their points of origin and the replacement of the curfew by traffic restrictions. Concerning the situation of the criminals who are still in Pisagua, Jarpa stated that this issue is being studied.

[Begin Jarpa recording] We will see how many will remain, but the people who had fewer problems and have already gone through a period of reeducation will be set free. I do not know how many yet, but we are dealing with it. [end reocrding]

Concerning the extension of the state of siege, Jarpa noted that this is an issue that is also being studied and that no decision has been made thus far.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT LEADER ON OPPOSITION STRUGGLE

PY261257 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1031 GMT 25 Jan 85

[By Concepcion Bordona]

[Text] Madrid, 25 Jan (EFE) -- Chilean Andres Zaldivar, president of the World Union of Christian Democrats, today said in Madrid that the Chilean dictatorship is every day more isolated and that Pinochet "has no counterpart in the world." Zaldivar, who today was received by the Spanish king, said that he longs for the return of democracy to Chile, and he affirmed that "it is a cause of shame for any Chilean that his country is the last to recover democracy."

In comments to EFE, Zaldivar insisted that only a "permanent and mounting popular mobilization in a movement of civil disobedience" can force a "dialogue" with the military sectors to promote a democratic restructuring. Zaldivar said that with the recent return of democracy in Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil, "Chile is more and more isolated abroad, but that the government is holding on to the strength of a nearly monolithic Army that devotes itself to intimidating, searching houses, making arrests, and banishing Chileans."

Zaldivar considers 1985 a key year for the Chilean situation, which has two possible outcomes. One is "a long process with mounting repressive measures, tensions, ruptures, violence, and great social explosion." The other possibility is that the country "may become like Paraguay, and Chileans will become used to the tyrannical rule of the dictatorship." But Zaldivar pointed out that the second possibility is hardly likely given the democratic traditions in Chilean society, the poor economic situation, and the high unemployment, which affects more than 50 percent of the young people.

Invigorated by that hope, Zaldivar reiterated his call for "civil disobedience," which will convert Chileans into great "disobeyers" of the dictatorship, and that this will be the main objective of an opposition that considers itself "capable of overcoming the rule of force." With the implementation of the state of siege on 6 November, according to Zaldivar, "a second coup was staged by an apparently triumphant Pinochet," who resorted to force and fear.

For the Chilean leader, "it is clear that military governments have roundly failed around the world, and that they have bequeathed to the civilians countries torn asunder by crisis." Zaldivar cited the examples of Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay, where the military "have left power in failure. And in Argentina, they even failed at their own job -- fighting wars."

He expressed satisfaction over the agreement Chile and Argentina signed on the Beagle Channel, saying: "We are happy that peace has been ensured, although the price Chile paid was the relinquishment of areas of legitimate maritime sovereignty." He then reasserted that "if permanent peace between Chile and Argentina, future economic integration, and disarmament were the price, it was well paid."

During his meeting with King Juan Carlos, Zaldivar thanked him for the hospitality Spain extended to him during the 3 years he has lived here in exile. The Christian Democratic leader came to Spain at the invitation of the Popular Democratic Party (PDP), which tomorrow starts its second congress since its founding in September 1982.

NATIONAL DIALOGUE OPENS WITH PRESIDENT'S APPEAL

PA251344 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The national dialgoue began with an invitation by President Belisario Betancur and Minister German Bula Hoyos that serious and coherent proposals be made within the constitutional and legal framework. During the plenary session of the working groups, Government Minister Jaime Castro read the message from the head of state and reiterated the government's position that it will accept those proposals that accord with the country's consitutional framework.

German Bula Hoyos, former minister and coordinator of the national dialogue, asked the persons committed to this peacekeeping mechanism to avoid endless arguments, work effectively, and present their proposals before 20 July to permit the president to present them to Congress during the upcoming regular period of sessions.

DEFENSE MINISTER VIEWS PEACE PROCESS, VIOLENCE

PA292144 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Jan 85 pp 1A, 4C

[Report on statement to EL TIEMPO by Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe by German Santamaria; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] "I once had a conversation with Alvaro Fayad [19 April Movement, M-19, leader] when he was under arrest. We talked for about 5 hours, the time it took us to smoke two packs of cigarettes. At that time I told him the same thing I am saying now: The country needs changes, but these changes cannot be achieved through violence, because violence generates violence. For example, what do you think a man feels when his children are kidnapped, or when he is a victim of extortion? The Death to Kidnappers and similar groups are the result of violence, because if the state cannot guarantee security, people think about taking justice into their own hands, which in turn generates more violence. Therefore changes must be made through a natural process, but without violence. If the leftists were to achieve power in a deomcratic way, we would have to respect them, there is no doubt about that. But it should be through democratic and constitutional means, because they will never obtain power the other way, through violence. We will not let this happen."

Neither Tough Nor Soft

"I have no regrets about what happened after the incident at Norte canton. Only one person was killed during the entire process of recovering the weapons, and this was due to a mistake. There was only one dead, although the subversives fired on the troops many times and even hurled grenades at us. What really happened is that they didn't want the media to know that they had stolen 5,000 weapons, and they tried to change the subject by talking about tortures. However, we recovered more than 5,000 rifles because we also seized the other weapons they had. I am still the same man I have always been; not even my wife has been able to change me. I am neither tough nor soft; I only enforce the law and the Constitution, because this is our duty as we promised at military school. Thus, if anyone violates the law, he must be punished according to the law. This is not being harsh; if it were, judges who enforce law and justice could be called extremely harsh. However, when I enforce the law and Constitution within areas under my jurisdiction, I am considered harsh. Do they want me to be soft and let everybody in the country do as they please, committing crimes with impunity? It would not pay to be labeled soft, because that would mean straying from the straight path we must follow.

"So the terms tough or soft applied to me are techniques used in the media, perhaps in an attempt to influence public opinion."

The Hope for Peace

"I still believe that peace is possible. I am optimistic about peace; I am a born optimist. However, words must be supported by facts. As I have said many times, we do not want the peace of tombs. I simply say that if people act according to the law there is no problem, because there is a peace or truce agreement, whatever you may call it, by which the government offers peace. In other words, if you live within the law it does not matter if you belong to the M-19, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC], or any group. If you respect the law, you can be in Cali, Bogota, Barranquilla, or Corinto. You can be anywhere, as long as you do not violate the law. But if you do not stick to the law, you cannot live anywhere. Within the democratic framework everybody can vote here: Liberals, Conservatives, Communists, members of Firmes [leftist movement]. If you can convince people, they will vote for you. This is possible only if people are sincere; if people prepare for peace and not war. I believe that democracy is freedom with order. If there are no limits to freedom, you end up with anarchy, and if there is no limit in instituting order, you end up with fascist dictatorship."

Power and Thinking

"As defense minister, it is an honor to be called the minister of peace by the president. I would sincerely like to consolidate peace as soon as possible, because it would be very grave for the country, very grave, if the president's immeasurable efforts failed. Although armed clashes between the Army and the guerrillas have decreased, the truth is that peace is not a problem of struggle between the Army and subversives. In reality, it is a problem that concerns us all, the entire country. We should all feel part of the peace problem, because peace cannot be achieved if part of the country sits down and watches while others work for peace, as if they were watching a football game. This is a struggle between that part of the country that wants to preserve democracy and the other that wants to subvert order. If we arrive at the conclusion that many things have to be changed, they can be changed, but not through violent methods. Those who seek power through violence will never succeed."

TERRORISTS, MILITARY EQUIPMENT CAPTURED IN CAPITAL

PA291705 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Bogota -- An alleged terrorist plot against public buildings, one of them the presidential palace, was discovered in Bogota, while in Yumbo and Medellin the extremists' have intensified their activities, causing huge material losses.

It has been officially confirmed that four men and one woman, presumably members of the FARC's dissident Ricardo Franco cell, were captured while prowling around Narino Palace carrying war materials, including a rocket-launcher for M-72 rockets and several grenades.

Meanwhile, in Medellin a number of terrorist attacks affected the urban transportation system when six unsubdisized buses were burned with bombs in [name indistinct] neighbrhood, in the southwestern part of Medellin. According to the authorities, these actions resulted in losses totaling 4.5 million pesos. The attackers were three men who, after intimidating the watchmen at the lot where the buses were parked, proceeded to set fire to them.

LAW DEFINES ADMINISTRATION OF NATIONAL TERRITORIES

PA251610 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Bogota -- The government disclosed today the official text of law No 22 of January 1985, considered essential in hastening the social and economic development of the so-called national territories made up of the intendancies and commissariats. This statute was signed by President Betancur on Friday during a visit to Puerto Inirida, the capital of Guainia Commissariat on the border with Brazil. Among other things, the law states that the administration of the intendancies and commissariats must be run by the government, Adainco [expansion unknown], and each territory must be run by the intendancy's and commissariat's councils and the intendants and commissioners.

[Words indistinct] special powers to President Betancur for 12 months to modify the organization of Adainco and the contractual, administrative, and fiscal statute of the intendancies and commissariats, and issue a special fiscal, budget, tax, and development program for the intendancies and commissariats. The president will also determine the number of contracts that must be entered into by the administrator of the [word indistinct] of the national territories [words indistinct] the Health Ministry and the board of directors of the agency. Currency and customs and customs regulations for San Andres and Providencia, as well as for the other intendancies and commissariats that are on the border will also be issued by the president. The president will issue regulations on immigration control and [words indistinct] settlements in San Andres and Providencia, and on the protection and the conservation of the cultural patrimony of the natives of the intendancies and commisariats.

EL TIEMPO SUPPORTS COSTA RICA IN ASYLUM ISSUE

PA292155 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Jan 85 p 4 A

[Editorial: "The Right to Asylum"]

[Text] In Colombia's diplomatic tradition, the right to asylum is one of the most respected legal principles. Colombia, like no other country in Latin America, has struggled to defend this principle. The administrations of both political parties and even the military regime of General Rojas Pinilla did not yield an inch in defending this sacred principle of international law. Thanks to this, Haya de la Torre [Peruvian politician] saved his life by seeking asylum in our embassy and was thus able to continue working for democracy in Latin America. Juan Tomas de Sales, the founder and until recently the director of Spain's CAMBIO 16 magazine, was able to evade the ironclad Franco dictatorship and travel to Colombia, where he lived for several years before establishing the important Madrid-based magazine. Due to all these reasons and out of the conviction that we are defending an essential democratic principle, we defend the sacred right to asylum without any exception, even if totalitarian rulers of every type abuse it. In our hemisphere, where excesses have been more frequent than desired, the violation of this right constitutes a very serious danger. All of this comes to mind due to the current situation between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Let us look at what has taken place. Urbina, a 22-year-old student, took asylum in the Costa Rican embassy, claiming to be persecuted by the Sandinist regime. Government guards entered the embassy to force him to leave, thus clearly violating the basic principles of this international norm. The Costa Rican Government protested and stated that it will not attend the Contadora Group meetings as long as Urbina is not returned to the embassy. Nicaragua replied by describing the young Nicaraguan as a deserter, a criminal not covered by the convention signed by the countries that support the right to asylum.

Costa Rica has insisted that the young Nicaraguan be returned so that it can decide his status. This is a fundamental regulation that safeguards the diplomatic norm. The country that grants asylum is the one that decides whether the person under its protection is being politically persecuted or is a common criminal. To analyze this complicated problem, we need to bear in mind the government systems in the two countries. Costa Rica is a republic whose democratic and pacifist tradition cannot be doubted. It is perhaps the most respected republic in America and is viewed as an exemplary country in the turbulent Central American region. Nicaragua, on the other hand, is a nation that ridded itself of a horrible dictatorship and has fallen into a Marxist totalitarian regime. Therefore, this is a struggle between a nation that respects human rights and practices democracy and whose existence is based on a constitutional and republic tradition, and a dictatorial-style state where democracy and freedom of expression do not exist. This is why we must defend Costa Rica, whose clean political record makes it worthy of such support.

Colombia has not voiced a position on this issue. Our Foreign Ministry's attitude has been more than timid in the face of a problem of legal principles that we consider essential. As we said before, the right to asylum is an inalienable right. Our country's link to the Contadora Group places it in a very prominent position to force Nicaragua to turn over the asylum seeker to Costa Rica so that it can decide his status. To do anything else would be unacceptable. Let us hope that our excellent foreign minister, Ramirez Ocampo, will, in agreement with President Betancur, confirm Colombia's tradition in this regard. Our government must adopt a position that cannot be described as ambiguous. Instead, it must be absolutely clear on the need to urgently revitalize the humanitarian norm so that those who are politically persecuted by dictatorships can have a means of escape. Nicaragua's mockery of this norm could lead to the collapse of this generous legal principle that is deeply linked to our diplomatic history and so faithfully defended by Colombians.

LEADERS DISCUSS CHANGES IN U.S. EXTRADITION TREATY

PA291711 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 24 Jan 85 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Yesterday the Colombian Government began to review the terms of the extradition treaty signed with the United States in 1979 in an attempt to reduce the scope of offenses and provide basic procedural guarantees for persons subjected to extradition. It was reported that 5 years after the treaty was signed in Washington and 3 weeks since it was first implemented, the government has begun to study its terms and agree on possible amendments it will submit to the U.S. Government. President Belisario Betancur, Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, Justice Minister Enrique Parejo Gonzalez, and Attorney General Carlos Jimenez began discussions yesterday on the treaty, reforms Colombia might propose, and results of the first meeting between Colombian and U.S. officials on the renegotiation of the treaty, which took place in Washington.

It was learned that an attempt will be made to reduce the current number of extraditable offenses, to change some clauses that are susceptible to divergent legal points of view, and to include others giving procedural guarantees to citizens facing extradition by any of the two signatory countries. Treaty renegotiations will also seek clarification of administrative procedures for the turnover of the extradited person to authorities of the requestor country. Colombia began to implement the treaty 3 weeks ago, during which it has turned over four Colombian nationals to the United States: Hernan Botero Moreno, Marco Fidel Cadavid Calle, and the brothers Ricardo and Said Pabon Jater. To date the United States has approved the extradition of Lincoln Tamber, who is in a Boston prison.

RIERA REPORTED 'PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE'

PY281640 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 28 Jan 85 p 10

[From "Whispering" column]

[Text] In its latest issue, the Colorado weekly MAYORIA has published a report that has astonished many people. The report discusses the presidential candidacy of Enrique Riera, a leader of the dissident National Republican Association [ANR], a Colorado party faction that is active in Asuncion. [as published] According to this piece of gossip, Riera is acceptable to the United States and enjoys U.S. support for his political aspirations. Could this be true, some political opponents asked themselves, while others also wanted to know when Riera would run for president, should his candidacy be a fact.

MOPOCO LEADERS RELEASED, RIERA CONFINED

PY292214 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 29 Jan 85 p 12

[Text] According to the Colorado Popular Movement [Mopoco] dissident group, three Mopoco members who were arrested on 25 January and detained at the 1st Police Precinct building in Asuncion were released on 27 January at 1400. The persons in question are Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, Antonio Gonzalez Prieto, and Sandino Gil Oporto. In addition, Enrique Riera, another Mopoco member, has been confined to the town of Caraguatay, where he owns a cattle ranch. Both the Mopoco and the National Accord have issued communiques in which they referred to the arrest and confinement of their members. The Mopoco members are subject to a police regulation that establishes that they are only allowed to go from their place of residence to their place of work and back. They were arrested for violating this regulation.

RADICAL LIBERAL PARTY CONVENTION RESULTS

PY292036 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 28 Jan 85 p 10

[Excerpts] The so-called Democratic Center ticket led by Persio Franco yesterday carried the Radical Liberal Party [PLR] convention by 470 votes out of 607. The members of the Radical Liberal Integration Movement (MILR) left the convention in protest before the voting began. Persio Franco, Emilio Forestieri, and Teofilo Cristaldo as president and first and second vice presidents, respectively, on the Democratic Center ticket yesterday carried the PLR convention. However, the votes were cast without the participation of the conventioneers of the MILR ticket who left because of a disagreement over the appointment of the credentials committee. The executive board of the Democratic Center ticket is made up of the following full members: Persio Franco Becker, Emilio Forestieri, Teofilo Cristaldo, Luis Maria Vega, Aniano Estigarribia, Miguel Oscar Bajac, Ramon Lezcano Torres, Carlos Baranda, Martin Llano Domecq, Jorge Anibal Duarte, Pablo Ramirez, Luis Guggiari Alfaro, Ruben Dario Setrini, Luis Alberto Jara Sanchez, Carlos Bonzi Gimenez, Carlos Arce Bazan, Osvaldo Vazquez, Pio Celso Coronel, Carlos Maria Jara Sanchez, Luis Beloran Barrios, Jose Ocampo Cuellar, Ramon Julio Insfran, Mario Sosa Campuzano, Victor Nunez Medina, Atilior Saquier, Nestor Morgas, Assad Yore, Oscar Ramiro Ruiz, Victor Urbieta Roja, and Felix Ayala. The alternate members are: Protacio Roa, Fernando Carmona, Henry Manuel Ferreira, Julio Basualdo, Marta Ruiz Diaz de Ayala, Hugo Ojeda, Domiciano Burgos, Arsenio Gomez, Pablo Figueredo, Adolfo Ayala, Estanislao Vazquez, Marino Valdez, Marcelino Rodas, Bonifacio Maida, and Braulio Flor. The court of honor is made up of Virginio O. Gonzalez, Domingo Ocampo, Maximo Ayala Roman, Julio O. Bajac, and Fortunato Farreto as full members, and by Silvio T. Aquino, Pedro Pablo Vera, and Rogelio Martinez as alternate members.

POPE CONCLUDES VISIT; LEAVES FOR ECUADOR

PA292224 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] We bid you farewell, our friend, our pope; Venezuela will always be with you. Thus President Jaime Lusinchi summarized the feelings of all Venezuelan people when bidding farewell to Pope John Paul II. The pontiff departed for Ecuador a few minutes ago, after a 4-day visit to Venezuela. His farewell was full of emotion, and at 1555 Pope John Paul II delivered his last speech in our homeland, to the Venezuelan people.

MAS DISCUSSES OPPOSITION'S ROLE IN SOLVING CRISIS

PA290356 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Jan 85 p D 7

[Message from the Movement Toward Socialism, MAS, to the people of Caracas; date not given; capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] Today marks 14 years of existence of MAS, years devoted to the construction of a political force for social change. We set out from the very beginning with optimism and faith to build a better life for Venezuelans. We have contributed and will continue to contribute ideas and solutions to our nations's serious problems through technicians, professionals, intellectuals, and workers bound together by MAS. We are convinced that it is incumbent upon us, as representatives of the opposition, to contribute to our nation's and people's well-being with constructive criticism and proposals. Today, on this new anniversary and in view of the large-scale crisis besetting our country, we wish to state to all Venezuelans that we are firmly determined to struggle for a better future for our homeland.

THIS IS A TIME FOR REFLECTION, FOR A COMMITMENT TO HISTORY, AND FOR HARD WORK TO TURN DISSATISFACTION AND PROTEST INTO CONSCIENTIOUSNESS AND SOCIAL STRENGTH FOR CHANGE.

We must reflect and realize that we cannot go on, as in the past 26 years, with the reckless spending, ineptitude, arrogance, and pandering to the major financial groups represented by the Venezuelan Federation of Associations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry to the detriment of our national majorities, through neglect and the squandering of our renewable and nonrenewable natural resources. We must make a historical commitment to lead our homeland on sound and solid paths toward a future of happiness and well-being, in which social democracy will be synonymous with true equality and justice. We must work hard and bravely to overcome our current economic crisis, planning with rational criteria and patriotism and serving with imagination and creativeness as a people, regardless or our political, religious, or social beliefs, to perfect and deepen our democracy and build a SOLID ECONOMIC BASE for a more harmonious development of our society.

OUR PEOPLE CAN COUNT ON MAS MEMBERS TO DO THIS. TODAY WE RENEW OUR BEAUTIFUL COMMITMENT TO THE PROGRESS OF OUR HOMELAND, TO THE WELL-BEING OF OUR PEOPLE, AND TO DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM.

TODAY, MORE THAN EVER, OUR HOMELAND NEEDS SOCIALISM.

[Signed] MAS Regional Political Committee, Caracas

BANK OF TOKYO OFFICIAL ON DEBT RENEGOTIATION

FL291626 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0235 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Takeo Shinde, representative in Mexico of the Bank of Tokyo, said here today that talks on the renegotiation of the Mexican foreign debt would begin next week in an effort to have the final agreement signed in March. He said the position of the 24 Japanese banks on this agreement is to sign it first and not to wait, as many have advocated, until oil prices go down.

He said that even if the drop in oil prices affects the Mexican economy, this will be positive for the industrialized countries, and therefore other nations will benefit because international interest rates will fall and the developed countries will have greater purchasing power, with which they will increase their raw material imports.

Shinde said the basic conditions for restructuring the Mexican foreign debt have already been met and only a few technical aspects remain to be worked out.

He said the Japanese banks are interested in continuing to cooperate with Mexico and added that if there are a few small U.S. banks opposed to signing the agreement, it is because they lack an internal system that allows them to continue operating internationally. Shinde said the large banks are capable of absorbing the Mexican debt to those small banks, which is significant.

Regarding the Mexican economic situation for 1985, he said there is a degree of uncertainty. He indicated that it is necessary to plan Mexican economic policy very cautiously, especially since the loss of purchasing power is very great. He pointed out that Mexican authorities must seek the point of equilibrium at which losses are reduced but prices of basic goods are not inflated.

FISH EXPORTS BRING $550 MILLION IN 1984

FL290058 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1850 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Secretary of Fisheries Pedro Ojeda Paullada said today that Mexico earned $550 million in 1984 from fish exports. During a trip to Lima, Peru, Ojeda said he and his Peruvian counterpart Ismael Benavides will try to make progress on a technical cooperation agreement that will benefit both nations.

Ojeda Paullada, who will stay in Lima until tomorrow, announced that Colombian President Belisario Betancur had informed him of the Colombian Government's support for the Latin American Fishing Organization, of which Ojeda Paullada is president.

BELIZE

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

FL291512 Belize City Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Mr David (Wreaths), Canadian high commissioner to Belize, is on an official visit to Belize. The Canadian high commissioner was welcomed on his arrival by Miss Linda Gordan, the Canadian honorary consul in Belize.

He was accompanied by development officers Mr Nick Morcott and Hubert Sinard, and Commercial Attache Mr Donald Butler.

Yesterday Mr (Wreaths) and his party met with the Prime Minister Mr Manuel Esquivel in his Belmopan office. They held discussions with Mr Michael House, deputy financial secretary and the permanent secretary for defense. He also met with Mr Elodio Aragon, minister of health, labor, and sports.

Today Mr (Wreaths) will hold discussions with the Minister of Energy and Communications Mr Israel Alpuche, the Minister of Natural Resources Mr Dean Lindo, the Minister of Education, Transport, Tourism, and Youth Derrick Aikman, and the Minister of Commerce, Industry, Fishing and Cooperatives Mr Eduardo Juan. The Canadian high commissioner and his party will also meet with Mr John Michael Crosby, the British high commissioner.

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ OPPOSES INITIATING BREAK WITH NICARAGUA

FL292130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1845 GMT 29 Jan 85

[By Juan Carlos Flores]

[Text] San Jose, 29 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said today that Costa Rica will not take the first step in breaking relations with Nicaragua.

The official was responding to questions by NOTIMEX on Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's statement to a U.S. magazine that a break in relations between Nicaragua and Costa Rica is approaching.

Gutierrez refused to comment on the background of Ortega's statement, which he said he know of only through press reports. He said they are based on false suppositions that Costa Rica is a child obedient to the order of papa (United States). It is typical of Ortega and the Sandinists that they would believe and spread such a lie.

The foreign minister said he regretted Ortega's statement, made at a time when the Contadora Group is seeking a solution to the dispute that originated when Sandinist authorities arrested a person receiving asylum at the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua.

The foreign minister stressed that Costa Rica will not be goaded into breaking relations with Nicaragua. Costa Rica will not take the first step in a situation that might mean war in Central America when we are fighting against war.

FRENCH SENATORS MEET WITH MONGE, GUTIERREZ

PA291410 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] A mission of eight French senators is concluding in Costa Rica its Central American tour to gather firsthand information on the region's situation. The delegation is led by Jean Francois Pintat of the Group of the Union of Republicans and Independents and includes Socialist, democratic left, and centrist representatives. During the mission's visit to Central America, it met with representatives of various sectors. The French legislators began their tour in Guatemala 15 days ago and visited El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua before arriving in Costa Rica.

For more than 1 hour, Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez analyzed the Central American situation and the Contadora Group's actions with the French senators. Gutierrez explained Costa Rica's position on the armed conflicts in the other Central American nations as well as Costa Rica's neutrality proclamation. The French senators will meet with the vice president of the Legislative Assembly today. The French senators also met with President Luis Alberto Monge in his private residence. They exchanged views on the Central American situation, the role that Costa Rica plays in the Contadora Group, and the prospects for peace in the region. President Monge explained to the legislators the reasons why Costa Rica decided to proclaim its neutrality on armed conflicts.

BRIEFS

NEW INTELLIGENCE CHIEF -- Colonel Sergio Fernandez has been appointed by Public Security Minister Benjamin Piza as director of the Costa Rican Intelligence and Security Directorate, DIS, to replace Colonel Carlos Monge. [Summary] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 19 Jan 85 p 4 PA]

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE ON FRG, PAPAL MEDIATION, DIALOGUE

PA300316 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2030 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Interview with President Jose Napoleon Duarte, by unidentified Radio Cadena Sonora reporter, in San Salvador on 28 January -- recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Duarte] ...Well, the foreign ministries of those countries organize tours through various regions of the world to evaluate their country's policy toward [words indistinct]. Consequently, the minister toured Central America to evaluate the FRG's position and establish its policies for Central America and the Contadora Group and the economic, political, and social support that each Central American country will receive from the FRG. That is the main purpose of his visit, and we have discussed all these topics: Contadora, dialogue, production, El Salvador's political position toward other countries, FRG economic aid to El Salvador and Central America, and, of course, democracy in Central America.

[Reporter] What is their position on the Contadora Group's efforts and the dialogue?

[Durate] Regarding the Contadora Group, Europe is willing to support a negotiated solution to the Central American conflict, and they believe that Contadora is an instrument worthy of this mediation. That is the FRG's position, and we will share it if it takes into account the points in the document on which we have differences.

[Reporter] What are those differences, Mr President?

[Duarte] Well, we are referring to another problem and El Salvador's position regarding that problem. The first point refers to the country's sovereignty. We cannot let any other nation, for whatever reason, try to intervene or interfere in affairs that concern strictly the Salvadoran people. This leads us to review a series of proposals we have presented on the Contadora Document due to Nicaragua's intervention through the support offered to the armed sectors in El Salvador.

[Reporter] Mr President, given Pope John Paul II's offer to mediate in the Central American conflict, particularly regarding the problem in El Salvador, what was your reply?

[Duarte] No, monsignor [corrects himself] the pope did not make an offer regarding El Salvador. He made an offer regarding Central America. I believe that the offer regarding Central America had a message for all the Central American peoples. The most important message is that the pope seeks peace and offers himself as an instrument of peace. In addition, he sought to support the position of the Salvadoran church and Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas with regard to the dialogue process in which the church and Msgr Rivera y Damas have exerted themselves to the utmost. I believe this is the pope's message, and I am thankful for the pope's attitude in support of his church during this process to limit all actions of violence in our country and sincerely seek peace for our nation.

[Reporter] Mr President, one last question: Do you see any possibility of holding a meeting with those armed sectors before the elections?

[Duarte] I cannot answer that question; however, I have always said that I am willing and ready to participate in a sincere dialogue given the right circumstances and if it gives the Salvadoran people a basis for hope and faith that there is a possibility of solving things in a negotiated way and achieving peace. However, I am not ready to hold a tactical dialogue simply to obtain political advantage. That is not the way to achieve the benefits and goals sought by the people. Therefore, everything will depend on the rebels' position. Everyone witnessed their attitude at La Palma; they came full of understanding and ready to participate in the search for peace. However, they came to Ayagualo with an arrogant and brazen attitude, ready to destroy any possibility of achieving peace for the people. I will not be used for this kind of game. I will sit with anyone to discuss peace, but I will not sit down to discuss war. I want to participate only in peace talks.

COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL MOBILIZATION COMMUNIQUE

PA300405 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 26 Jan 85 p 3

[Text] "None of the existing political parties is presently worthy of credibility," the Council for National Mobilization [Consejo de Mobilizacion Nacional -- CNM] has stated in a communique sent to EL MUNDO. President Duarte described this communique in one of his latest press conferences as a "fascist-type" document. An earlier CNM document analyzed the nation's military situation, while this one is a political analysis, according to the CNM.

According to the movement, all parties should be eliminated and the Armed Forces should obtain a victory over the guerrillas. Referring to the political analysis, it says that "under the present system, the term political" is understood as shameful competition to gain positions in the public administration and hold on to them for personal, family, or party gain.

It notes that the government sector is obstinate in a ridiculous nepotism, while the opposition seeks only to impose conditions to arrive at a national unity government where their parties may ensure a chance at looting state resources.

In another part of the document, the CNM stated that "the essential decisions regarding El Salvador are invariably adopted in Washington or Moscow or are the result of an agreement between the two. In view of these shameful facts, our leadership, in order to survive, merely adopts an attitude of resigned ignorance."

The document also says that, "beyond its domestic reality, El Salvador finds itself immersed in a conflict covering the entire Central American region; therefore, an overall view of its political situation must also be considered from this perspective."

The CNM adds that "Salvadoran diplomacy is not marked at this historic stage by either originality or creative talent. It does not act until events have already occurred, when it merely obeys the generally contradictory instructions of the State Department. Thus, the activity that should reflect the sovereignty of a nation has been relegated to a secondary, unimportant level."

The CNM also says that "in our efforts toward democratization, promoted by the State Department, the Salvadoran people have been committed at any price to a real electoral marathon, obsessed with finding at the polls the panacea for all our problems."

In conclusion, it recommends: 1. To promote a real political leadership capable of pursuing the nation's destiny and establishing an authentic republic where a fruitful democracy may rule, according to the idiosyncrasies of El Salvador, without imitating foreign experiences or accepting "ridiculous formulas."

2. To abstain from supporting any of the existing political parties to prevent the survival of petty politicians.

3. To demand a military victory from the Armed Forces.

4. To reject any ideology aimed at making our country a testing ground for crime.

5. To break relations with all foreign elements directly or indirectly favoring the enemies of El Salvador.

ARCE BATTALION REPORTS ON 'TOROLA V' RESULTS

PA300046 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Press Bulletin issued by the General Manuel Jose Arce Rapid Deployment Infantry Battalion, read by unidentified announcer; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] Referring to the matter of the "Torola V" military operation in San Miguel Department, in the northern zone, we have been able to determine, as was stated in the documents we seized from the People's Revolutionary Army [ERP] that the military operations of the ERP and the Salvadoran Revolutionary Party [PRS] in the second half of 1984 admittedly failed at building a regular army known as Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade [BRAZ], and at retaining fixed positions in Morazan Department, and they have failed to recruit politically capable leaders to organize groups that would serve as militias, the local people's power, intelligence units, and so forth. In order to overcome these shortcomings, the ERP had to organize the PRS Central Committee, which has divided the ERP's diverse commands.

The BRAZ military columns are known as strategic reserves and have been distributed throughout the country. Some of the columns were sent to attack in the eastern military zone, so the western Armed Forces must provide support to the eastern and central military units. That task is not impossible. We will always work with the forces in the country's east, and whenever the situation calls for it, we will concentrate all our forces to eradicate terrorism in El Salvador.

In addition, we were able to detect several columns, for example Nelson's column, operating to the north of Morazan Department; Isaac's column, operating to the north of La Union Department; Sanchez' column to the south of Jucuapa; and the so-called Santa Ana column attacking the eastern part of our beloved country.

The guerrilla units led by a BRAZ command, which is subdivided into special terrorist groups throughout the country, organized the peasants in the Sesori area until this January. Their training increased when they managed to receive representatives of the Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation, the Association of Cooperatives of Integrated Agricultural-Livestock Products, and [words indistinct] in December 1984. These representatives sought peasant support for a huge demonstration that was going to take place in San Salvador, but they did not succeed. The demonstration was to be held 4 days befor the end of 1984.

So far we have not determined the death toll, since many were wounded. Thanks to military reports we have learned that some who were seriously wounded have died by now. We can report on the armaments we have recovered: 1 G-3 rifle, 4 AR-15 rifles, 1 M-16 rifle, 1 FAL rifle, 15 AR-15 rifle clips, 8 G-3 rifle clips, 1 FAL clip; 2 backpacks; several harnesses; a fair amount of provisions; small amounts of medicine; cooking utensils; 1 grinder; and 11 dentistry tools. All of this was taken at the various camps our batallion encountered.

To conclude our press report, we want to comment on one of the chief aspects of our military operations. On the afternoon of 20 January, units belonging to our battalion ambushed one of the columns that attack in the eastern area, in the (Cacerio El Tapesquillo) Canton, located to the east of El Tigre mountain, to the south of the city of Jucupa. During that action three terrorists were killed and several were wounded. We seized a great deal of ammunition, 1 M-16 rifle, 8 ammunition clip carriers, 1 backpack, and documents. The terrorists were duly buried, and those wounded were evacuated by the survivors who fled.

We want to add that Commander Chungo was killed. He was the leader of the ambushed terrorist unit. Moreover we recovered his FAL rifle. Commander Chungo was carrying important documents on the recent activities to organize deceived peasants and on the money they had taken from coffee growers so that the guerrillas would not attack them. We want to add that Commander Chungo had replaced Commander Luis, who was killed by our units in December 1984. This is important news since the guerrillas are now in total disarray. In less than 30 days, we have practically annihilated this column by killing its new commander. We know that the commanders were always with Commander Fito, who had kept close to our units but who had fled without making contact with us,, fearing for his personal safety. We also know that Commander Cheo, a close friend of Commander Fito's, was seriously wounded. So far, our intelligence reports have not been able to ascertain whether he was killed. As soon as we receive that information we will report on it, since he is one of the commanders who is supposedly [word indistinct] and is second in command after Commander Fito. Moreover, there are some guerrilla commanders who are getting ready to desert the ERP ranks. Some of them are readying their passports since the ERP is in total disarray.

We want to report to the Salvadoran people, and in particular to the eastern area residents, that at all times we will continue our sacrifices in order to destroy the people's enemy, chiefly the ERP, which is operating within our military zone. Likewise, we want to thank the peasants living in the combed areas for their constant kindness and respect. We pledge to continue the struggle against the danger resulting from the presence of killers and kidnappers working for Russian imperialism.

TRAFFIC BAN LOSSES TOTAL SEVERAL MILLION COLONES

PA291453 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 28 Jan 85 pp 1, 38

[Text] During the week it lasted, the terrorist practices carried out on the roads, especially in the east, resulted in losses totaling several million colones, according to military reports. With their announcement that they were banning the movement of motor vehicles on the roads, the terrorists forced both merchants and industrialists to halt their transactions and this resulted in the losses estimated above.

However, a terrorist station announced on Saturday that the ban had been lifted, so numerous buses, trucks, and trailers which had not moved during the week began doing so. The Armed Forces reportedly remained on the alert to prevent any attack on vehicles, but civilians said it was impossible to maintain constant vigilance over the entire length of the Pan-American or Coastal Highways, thus making it necessary to take certain precautions.

During the terrorist ban, three or four vehicles were either dynamited or burned in the east. It has also been learned that the terrorists opened fire at a bus in La Paz Department, killing Ines Molina Ayala and wounding 11 other people. Meanwhile, the terrorists continue destroying electrical pylons located near the capital, causing blackouts in large areas for several hours.

GUERRILLAS DYNAMITE TRACK, KILL TRAIN DRIVER

PA291434 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 28 Jan 85 p 10

[Text] After km130 of the railroad track, located near Hacienda Normita, was dynamited, terrorists shot driver Manuel Zuniga to death. According to reports, the terrorists' plan was to derail the train, but when Zuniga foiled this action, the terrorists who had been awaiting the derailment approached the train and shot him to death. Members of the 6th Infantry Brigade, who were guarding El Coyolito Bridge near the site of the explosion, rushed to help those guarding the train. The ensuing clash lasted several minutes. Besides the driver, no other deaths have been reported. The track, destroyed by the dynamite explosion, was relaid and the train went on to Usulutan, where it arrived at noon, that is, 6 hours after the terrorist attack.

VENCEREMOS: TRAFFIC BAN LOSSES TOTAL $20 MILLION

PA290432 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The traffic ban that the FMLN successfully imposed for 7 days throughout our nation's territory has resulted in a $20-million loss to the oligarchy's war economy.

Locally, and at the international level, the Army high command has circulated a report that the puppet Armed Forces were able to neutralize the traffic ban imposed by the FMLN for 7 days.

In order to reveal the truth about the high command's statements regarding the alleged neutralization of our transport ban we invite the Armed Forces Press Committee [COPREFA] and Oneciforo Blandon, the arch war criminal, not to rely on the report we aired during our previous broadcast when we said that the losses sustained by the war economy as a result of our traffic ban amounted to $15 million.

We urge Coprefa and Blandon, the mass killer of Tenancingo, to refer instead to the figures that have just been released by the National Association of Private Enterprise, ANEP, and particularly to the data released by ANEP President Conrado Lopez Andreu. Lopez has just announced that the transportation ban caused losses in the amount of $20 million.

The only thing we regret is that we were not more accurate in our evaluation of the cost of our latest transport ban to the oligarchy's war economy. Our people have welcomed Lopez Andreu's report about the $20-million loss. They welcomed it because it means that the dictatorship will not be able to use this $20 million to maintain an Army that destroys the poor people's crops; an Army that destroys the houses of the poor; an Army that is useful only for preserving the starvation salaries at the coffee planatations and the privileges of the major fishing companies, which prevent poor fishermen from catching shrimp.

VENCEREMOS WARNS AGAINST DRIVING AT NIGHT

PA291347 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Attention, close attention: Attention drivers, close attention: The puppet Army has begun to deploy troops along the national roads during the night. We repeat, the Army has increased its mobilization of troops on the roads during the night due to the heavy blows we inflict on them on the roads during the day.

Attention: Consequently, our units will deal hard blows to the enemy troops in order to stop these night deployments. Therefore, we urge drivers not to travel on the roads between 2000 and 0500. We repeat: We urge drivers not to travel on the roads between 2000 and 0500. We repeat: We urge drivers not to travel on the roads between 2000 and 0500, in order to prevent innocent victims during the clashes we will initiate against the puppet Army's night deployments. We repeat, we will be hitting the Army on the roads in order to hamper the current deployment of troops on the roads during the night. Therefore, we urge drivers not to travel on the roads between 2000 and 0500, in order to prevent innocent victims during the clashes we will begin against the puppet Army's night deployments.

SOLDIERS POSE AS GUERRILLAS, STEAL FROM CIVILIANS

PA272154 (Clandestine) Radio Veneceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] We now have a report on criminal activities by (?3d) Infantry Brigade troops. On 24 January members of the so-called Leon Battalion, dressed in civilian clothes and posing as guerrillas, stole money and personal articles from civilians of the San Antonio Ojo de Agua canton in Chinameca jurisdiction.

Local residents identified the criminals as belonging to the Recondo Unit of the cattle-rustling Leon Battalion, which has continued committing crimes throughout the country's eastern area. This time they wore civilian clothes.

GUATEMALA

PSD'S SOLORZANO ON RISKS TO POLITICAL ACTIVISTS

PA300048 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Democratic Socialist Party [PSD] leader Mario Solorzano Martinez has said that it is not safe to participate in politics in Guatemala.

[Begin recording] I think that the workers, private businessmen, and politicians should look into this very seriously. The question here is not who is going to be safe. We must save this society, which has been deteriorating with the passage of time. I should say that, as of now, we don't know exactly what is being done with regard to the problem of security. I think this matter should be seriously discussed with the government. I feel that the government has made some progress with regard to violence but it still exists, and this worries us very much. Last night we were talking with great concern about the discovery of three bodies, in [word indistinct], if I am not mistaken. This is a source of great concern to us. I think that we should adopt new methods and that the government should try to find a solution to this situation, not only to allow the opposition to participate, as this decision has already been adopted, but to create confidence in the country. I think it is (?vital) to reflect about this here. [end recording]

Andrade on Solorzano's Return

PA290059 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] As our station had reported, Mario Solorzano Martinez, who was recently elected secretary general of the Socialist Democratic Party, PSD, returned to our country over the weekend after staying in the sister Republic of Costa Rica for several years. In commenting on Solorzano's return, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran said the government is pleased that local politicians who were abroad are returning to the country to join in the democratic opening up in Guatemala.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN SANTIAGO ATITLAN ATTACKED

PA290243 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 26 Jan 85 p 3

[By special correspondent Americo Guzman Maldonado]

[Excerpts] Solola, 25 Jan -- Leftist guerrillas have violently attacked government installations and local government offices in the neighboring town of Santiago Atitlan, located on the banks of Lake Atitlan.

Preliminary casualty figures from this guerrilla action are one person kidnapped, several policemen wounded by shrapnel, and the partial destruction of the town's municipal building as well as the house of the chief of military commissioners.

The action was characterized by the use of automatic weapons, the hurling of fire bombs at the buildings, and sporadic gunfire in various parts of town. The municipal building, which was partially destroyed, housed the police substation, manned by a deputy chief and three policemen, and other local government offices.

The attack was staged at 0100 today, Friday, while the townsfolk were in their homes and the police were in their installations. At least eight Claymore-type bombs were set off during the attack, which began at 0100 and was still going on at 0300, according to preliminary reports. The local police chief disappeared during the initial attack with automatic weapons and it is feared that he is being held by the guerrillas. He has not been identified.

The guerrillas, who were apparently members of the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, also attacked and destroyed the house of Martin Ruiz, chief of the town's military commissioners.

A new attack was staged against Santiago Atitlan again at around 0600 today, Friday. This time, however, Army infantrymen, policemen, and civil defense patrols repulsed the attack. The guerrillas had to withdraw to the mountains around the town with the troops hot on their heels.

Meanwhile, airborne troops from Military Zone No 18, headquartered in San Marcos, were fighting with leftist guerrillas who had established a stronghold in the place known as "El Boqueron" of Esquipulas Palo Gordo, in that department. The troops were mobilized on Thursday morning, and, according to reports today, Friday, they have already engaged the guerrillas in combat and are trying to dislodge them from the area.

BRIEFS

NEW DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER -- Military spokesman Hector Rosales Salaverria has reported that Colonel Raul Alburez Arriola, the incumbent deputy defense minister, will retire at the end of January and will be replaced by Cavalry Colonel Juan Francisco Aguilar Oliva. [Summary] [Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 29 Jan 85 PA]

HONDURAS

FINANCE SECRETARY ON AID CONDITIONS FOR LOANS

PA290348 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 28 Jan 85 p 48

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Honduras urgently needs the funds granted by the U.S. Government in order to balance its payments and bolster its economy. If U.S. aid is delayed, Honduran economic development will be slower, but there are several options in the face of the situation created by the latest talks between the Honduran economic cabinet and the AID mission.

Manuel Fontecha, secretary of state for finance and public credit, has said that "the aid offered by the United States is conditioned on the establishment of an economic stabilization program." Therefore, AID demands the establishment of "some parameters of economic policy, and this is what the economic cabinet and AID have been discussing," Fontecha said.

At these meetings, which will continue here tomorrow, the two parties will seek to reach an "agreement on the number of economic measures the government may be able to implement under the current circumstances. If the meetings drag on, there are other options regarding the direct financing of projects. The problem is that the disbursement will naturally be slower under these options. It would benefit our country more if the funds were granted sooner, because then the balance of payments could be stabilized and economic recovery could be achieved," Fontecha said.

Regarding AID conditions on supplying the funds, Fontecha said: "We are now at a negotiating stage. I believe it would be premature to advance any information in this respect. I would like to state, however, that the government has a clear concept as to the main aspects of its policy. I believe that one of the current government's basic policies is the stability of foreign exchange. At the same time, I believe that more efforts will have to be made to improve our revenue collection system, instead of creating new taxes."

M-LIDER'S REINA CRITICIZES FOREIGN POLICY

PA282148 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Interview with Jorge Arturo Reina, president of the Honduran Liberal Revolutionary Democratic Movement, M-LIDER, by unidentified reporter; place and date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] We want to ask Jorge Arturo Reina, president of M-LIDER, about how he views the Honduran-Nicaraguan situation and the position of the Contadora Group. However, first of all, how do you view the fact that initially it was said there were no contras in the country, and subsequently it was said that they would be kicked out?

[Reina] I think that the change is due to the change within the Honduran Armed Forces. General Alvarez' departure and the arrival of General Walter Lopez Reyes as leader of the Honduran Armed Forces and the arrival of the other officers accompanying him in the leadership have meant a greater strengthening of the nationalistic spirit. The foreign secretary's previous statement that there were no contras and subsequent statement that the contras must leave shows precisely the change toward an increasing nationalistic and patriotic feeling among the Armed Forces.

I think the recent revelations of foreign forces such as contra agents or Salvadorans entering Honduras to kill Hondurans and to commit thefts and criminal acts are extremely grave. Is Honduras a field where any foreign force can come kill? This is an area where Honduras should be different from the other Central American countries.

[Reporter] Do you agree with General Osvaldo Lopez Arellano's statement about seeking a dialogue with Nicaragua?

[Reina] I think Gen Osvaldo Lopez Arellano shows he understands war. Those who know the meaning of war fear it. Those who have only seen it in the movies want war, thinking that they will be movie heroes. The general is talking of something he knows, and he is talking about the dangers it entails. That is why he talks about the need for a dialogue between Honduras and Nicaragua. Why can't there be dialogue between Honduras and Nicaragua? Why can't there be a dialogue between Honduras and El Salvador? Why can't be a dialogue between Honduras and Guatemala? Why are we fighting with the Contadora countries? What interests do we defend? I believe in and support the statement by Gen Lopez Arellano, who said that Honduras can be a factor for peace and dialogue and not a gulf separating the Central American countries.

[Reporter] To what do you attribute the constant changes in Honduran foreign policy?

[Reina] I am sorry to state that Honduras' image abroad is very unfortunate, but it does not accurately reflect Honduras. It is the image of the Suazo Cordova administration and not Honduras. We see them make policy changes. [Words indistinct] when they said that no Salvadorans would train in Honduras. They said that students were the ones who were going to come from El Salvador. They said that there were no contras in the country, and now they say they will be kicked out. They said many things.

There is inconsistency in the policy. We must bear in mind a fact that is now essential in this struggle. Honduras, along with all its sectors, must decide its position on the great Central American crisis. The views of businessmen, workers, peasants, and political leaders of all leanings must be heard, because this country belongs to everyone, the civilians and the military, the businessmen and the workers, the farmers and the peasants, and the [words indistinct] political leaders. Therefore, we all have to express an opinion on the destiny of our fatherland [words indistinct]. We take a position, but then news from Washington indicates there is a change in its Central American policy so Honduras also makes a change. That is (?offensive). It is denigrating for the sovereign country that our forefathers bequeathed to us. That is why, in order to avoid these rapid changes, a position must be adopted with all sectors, civilian and military, all factions. We have to decide what we want for Honduras. Our foreign policy should reflect that great national consensus. Our domestic policy should also reflect that great national consensus. This is the only way we can negotiate with the United States from a good position.

[Reporter] It is worrisome to see that we have forgotten about the topic of Meanguera Island. What do you think?

[Reina] The definition of the borders is advisable for Honduras. [Words indistinct] Honduras' historic rights in the Gulf of Fonseca and access to the Pacific Ocean. I don't understand how the Salvadoran Armed Forces can carry out hostile actions against Honduras while the Honduran Government continues to aid those forces. The Salvadoran Armed Forces' occupation of the territory of Meanguera is a challenge, an act of arrogance against Honduras. Nevertheless, the foreign policy of the Suazo Cordova administration ignores these actions and acts as if they had never occurred. This is not a defense of the country's national interests.

NICARAGUA

VATICAN ISSUES 'ULTIMATUM' TO MINISTER D'ESCOTO

PA291548 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto has confirmed reports that last Wednesday he received an ultimatum from the Vatican instructing him to make a decision regarding his status as priest within the next 15 days. The Vatican's note asks the foreign minister to choose between his government post or the priesthood. Father D'Escoto told ANN that thus far he has received no notification from the Maryknoll Order, of which he is member. He said that the Maryknoll Order has shown solid support and complete solidarity with him. He stated that when he received the Vatican's notice, the head priest of the Maryknoll Order was in Managua and that he reiterated his and the order's solidarity. Church regulations stipulate that sanctions are applicable 15 days after the priest's order has presented him with the Vatican's notification.

Priests Given Deadline

PA292048 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] According to reports received from the Vatican, Rome has set a 15-day deadline to [Culture Minister] Father Ernesto Cardenal, his brother [Education Minister] Fernando Cardenal, Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, and [Ambassador to the OAS] Father Edgar Parrales to decide whether they will abandon their government posts or the priesthood.

Father Parrales has already tendered his resignation to the Vatican, but Father D'Escoto has received the support of his congregation, the Maryknoll Order.

ORTEGA, FRENCH SENATORS DISCUSS AREA CONFLICT

PA291525 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] During a busy work schedule last weekend, President Daniel Ortega met in the city of Matagalpa with a delegation of French senators, with whom he discussed matters of mutual interest and the Central American conflict. Commander Daniel Ortega briefed the French lawmakers on the development of the peace efforts advanced by the Contadora Group, the willingness of the Nicaraguan people to attain peace, and the military threats by the U.S. Government. The French senators were very receptive to the arguments presented by our President Daniel. At the conclusion of the meeting they reaffirmed that the difficult problems that Central America is confronting must be resolved through negotiations, not force.

Senator Jean Francois Pintat, who is heading the delegation, told the "Extra" newscast that the French Government and people firmly support the Contadora Group's efforts for peace in Central America and reject a military solution to the conflict. The delegation includes Jean Francois Pintat, leader of the group, Charles Bonifay, Pierre Jeambrun, Pierre Vallon, Auguste Chupin, and (Ivon Gaser). The group arrived in Nicaragua last Friday to obtain firsthand knowledge of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, its achievements, limitations, and the problems that the Nicaraguan people are experiencing.

ORTEGA COMMENTS ON PROBLEMS WITH COFFEE HARVEST

PA290431 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] The revolutionary government has announced the temporary closure of several state organizations so that the workers may join the production activities and participate in the coffee harvest without neglecting the military defense of the country. The announcement was made by Compañero President Daniel Ortega during a general assembly of small-, medium-, and large-sized producers of Region 6, which was held yesterday at La Dalia, Matagalpa Department. The Culture Ministry, the Nicaraguan Insurance and Reinsurance Institute, the National Institute of Statistics and Census [INEC], and the Nicaraguan Natural Resources and Environment Institute [IRENA] will close their offices this week so that their workers may go to the coffee zones to pick the ripe fruit.

The small- and medium-sized producers in Matagalpa, organized under the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen [UNAG], discussed with President Daniel Ortega a series of problems which they have been facing, especially regarding the supply of staples, transportation, and availability of tires and shoes. After analyzing the country's current difficult situation, President Daniel Ortega Saavedra said: We are facing many problems. Some of these problems are the results of 100 years of exploitation and cannot be solved in 5 years of revolution. However, there are other problems that, despite the imperialist aggression, can be solved, and the workers must keep an eye on state officials so that the latter fulfill their jobs.

President Ortega Saavedra criticized, in a constructive way, the deficient transportation service due to many mistakes, and the state officials' negligence in solving the most urgent needs of those working in the production sector. In general, Commander Daniel Ortega said that 1985 will be the year to consolidate the Nicaraguan revolutionary process and guarantee resources for our national defense, the agricultural export products, and the industrial production sector.

This will in turn guarantee medical assistance, education, and other basic services for the people. However, the main goal is to raise the field workers' salary until it is the best in the country, because this will prevent the peasants from emigrating to urban areas.

President Daniel Ortega stressed that the current coffee harvest has been extremely difficult due to the mercenary aggressions financed by the Reagan adminstration, which are aimed at preventing the coffee harvest at any cost. Evidence of this is that the attackers did not limit their attacks to the coffee state production units, but also attacked the private sector, murdering farm owners and large estate owners and destroying coffee mills and storage areas.

The country's defense is fundamental, he added. He stressed: If necessary, the agricultural activities will be abandoned to defend the country and everyone must pick up a rifle to defend our sovereignty and achievements. President Daniel Ortega was accompanied by Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Deputy Defense Minister Joaquin Cuadra, UNAG President and Assembly Deputy Daniel Nunez, and Companero Carlos Zamora, political secretary of Region 6, and other revolutionary state officials.

President Ortega said that despite mercenary aggressions, the coffee is being harvested. He praised the attitude of private producers in other regions, because they have supported the coffee harvest.

[Begin recording] This has been the most critical year in terms of our coffee harvest because we faced a veritable challenge from the mercenary forces. Companero Daniel Nunez rightly said -- I think that Juan Jose [not further identified] also said it -- the mercenary forces destroyed a state production unit and killed the companeros working there shortly before the harvest started, when the prepearations were under way. The mercenaries also killed some private producers and destroyed their installations.

For the first time, the mercenaries came to destroy private producers' installations, which they had never touched before. They wanted to terrorize the producers by this. There was a time when some of the producers wanted to give up, as Juan Jose said. However, I think that those who wanted to give up were only a few; most of them were ready to harvest the coffee. We were facing a serious situation at that time.

The U.S. Government was interested in making the coffee harvest fail, not only because of the impact this would have on Nicaragua, but because it would then be able to tell the U.S. Congress: Look, the people to whom we are giving money to wage a war against that dangerous government in Nicaragua -- the freedom fighters, as they are called -- have successfully destroyed the coffee harvest. So, this means we are achieving victories in Nicaragua and it is necessary to approve more funds so that we may continue waging a war against Nicaragua.

This was the main objective of the mercenary forces. They are directed by the CIA, which is the U.S. Government's instrument for carrying out its terrorist policies.

It is evident that we must exert ourselves to the utmost during these last weeks. Consequently, it has been decided that some ministries will be temporarily closed down, for example, the Culture Ministry, the Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies [as heard], INEC, and IRENA. Why? Because the companeros working in these ministries will be sent to help in the coffee harvest. They will return to their jobs in these ministries afterward. If it is necessary to close other ministries, then we will close other ministries, but we must harvest as much coffee as we can.

This coffee harvest is being carried out thanks -- and we have said this quite clearly -- mostly to the members of our Sandinist People's Army and the Interior Ministry because they have defended the harvest with their blood and their lives. It has also been possible thanks to the efforts, cooperation, and participation of the voluntary pickers. They have come from different state organizations, organized by their unions, secondary schools, and universities. Producers -- 500 producers, cattlemen, cotton growers -- have also come, and this can be described as miraculous, because only a revolution can achieve miracles. They have come from Chontales, Managua, the western region; 500 have arrived to prove their solidarity with the producers in this region and pick coffee. We must help the producers here. We must help them harvest the coffee in this region. [end recording]

RAMIREZ ON RELATIONS WITH CHURCH, MUSAVI VISIT

PA291808 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1525 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts of interview with Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado by unidentified reporter; date and place not given -- passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] A few minutes ago, we announced an interview with Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado. The meeting lasted more than 50 minutes. We excerpted portions of that interview for you. We discussed Nicaragua's economic situation, which is described by our revolutionary government as serious; Nicaragua's relations with Costa Rica and Honduras; whether there are Vatican pressures on the priests holding posts in the government; the state of relations between church and state, that is the state of the relations; the Iranian prime minister's visit; and the U.S. Administration's charges. We now present that interview with Companero Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado.

[Ramirez] "Well, the truth is that the new government has drafted the 1985 economic plan which outlines measures to tackle the economic crisis. Those involve the country's fiscal operation, fiscal expenditures, setting priorities for investments for the production of export goods, and ensuring the supply of basic staples for the population, that is, a new policy favoring the productive sector rather than the speculative sector. Although this package of measures might not overcome the crisis in 1985, it will (?alleviate) that crisis, because 1985 is going to be a complex year; in fact a very decisive year in (?our struggle) against the CIA."

[Reporter] We also asked Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado about Nicaragua's relations with Honduras and Costa Rica. He said:

[Ramirez] "Relations are different at different times. I believe that we must be objective and (?realize) that for the time being the quality of our relations with Honduras has undergone a change. We observe a new rapprochement toward Nicaragua. We must not forget that U.S. policy has brought about a number of contradictions within Honduras. This is more evident in view of the U.S. military presence in Honduras that constitutes a strong source of contradictions. The Honduran Government is [word indistinct] as a result of constant U.S. Government promises for economic aid in exchange for military (?commitments) by Honduras. Those promises have not been fulfilled.

"As for Costa Rica, the U.S. Government is applying great political pressure to maintain confrontation between Costa Rica and Nicaragua; serious problems have emerged in our relations. We have tried to handle them with great maturity, but that pressure is constantly there to place the Costa Rican Government on the defensive. In general, there is constant tension in the relations between Central American countries brought about by the U.S. Government's meddling."

[Reporter] Dr Ramirez, as for the priests holding posts in the government, has there been or is there any Vatican pressure for them to abandon their posts?

[Ramirez] "Yes, there is Vatican policy aimed at preventing the priests from carrying on with their duties as ministers of state, a permanent threat of expulsion from their orders and suspension of their religious duties. We have always said that this is a problem involving the conscience between the priests and the Vatican. They must decide whether to stay in the government or (?heed the orders) of the Vatican. As long as they decide to stay in the government, as they have done, we will continue to give them our political support. This is necessary because this is their decision. However, we cannot ignore that this issue has become more of a political debate than a religious one."

[Reporter] What is the current status of the relations between the Nicaraguan church and the Nicaraguan Government?

[Ramirez] "We could say that these relations have improved following President Ortega's inauguration. They began to improve ever since the last meeting of the Episcopal Conference held on (?Christmas Day). On the other hand, Msgr Obando y Bravo and Commander Ortega (?have met), and later Msgr Vega was appointed representative at the inauguration ceremony. We felt that this is a new climate that opens the possibilities of a dialogue." [passage indistinct]

[Reporter] What significance does Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega's presence at the inauguration ceremony and his participation in the invocation have?

[Ramirez] "Evidently, it represents a change in the relations between the state and the church. We positively appreciate Msgr Vega's presence on behalf of the Episcopal Conference. It was suggested that he read the invocation and he did this. As I said this opens a new door to relations with the church, and we are very interested in this."

[Reporter] Recently the Iranian prime minister visited Nicaragua. This brought about a quick reaction from the Reagan administration, which accused the Nicaraguan revolution of being a threat to the region because of its relations with, according to Reagan, terrorist regimes. What are your views regarding this?

[Ramirez] "It was the most absurd pretext we have ever heard. [Words indistinct] It shows the lack of seriousness [words indistinct] Reagan administration has against us. After leaving Tehran Musavi paid a courtesy visit to Turkey. But Turkey is a member of NATO [words indistinct] and the Reagan administration did not describe the Turkish Government as being an ally of terrorists. [Words indistinct] 3-day official visit during which the Iranian prime minister signed economic agreements for more than $3 billion dollars. No one thought of saying that these $3 billion dollars were to be used for the exchange of terrorist weapons and bases.

"Following his visit to Nicaragua, the Iranian prime minister visited Venezuela and met with the Venezuelan foreign minister. However, the United States did not say that these relations with the Venezuelan Government were suspicious or that it was an alliance between Lusinchi's government and the Iranian Government to destabilize Colombia or Ecuador. Therefore, we do not pay much attention to his type of statement. We do have excellent relations with Iran and we have cultivated these relations over the past few years. [Words indistinct] Nicaragua, and our two countries are nonaligned have respectful relations, and we have developed mutual respect." [end recording]

TIRADO CALLS FOR EFFORT TO IMPROVE PRODUCTION

PA282250 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpt] We must carry out the resolutions approved in this labor meeting the minute we leave here to counter U.S. imperialism not only in the military sector, but in the economic sector as well, Commander of the Revolution Victor Manuel Tirado Lopez, member of the FSLN National Directorate, said. He made this statement yesterday at the closing session of the Leonel Rugama 4th National Labor Assembly, which met for 2 consecutive days with the participation of 800 labor leaders from all over the country.

Commander Tirado Lopez also pointed out, one by one, the priority tasks that must be carried out by the labor movement to achieve economic development in Nicaragua.

[Begin recording] Given the situation imposed on us by the forces of U.S. imperialism, the Nicaraguan labor movement, the Nicaraguan working class, and the workers must direct all their activities and productive efforts toward conserving energy, increasing productivity by augmenting export products, and harvesting coffee, cotton, and sugarcane in order to cover our production costs.

In other words, we -- the workers, employees, and [words indistinct] -- must exert ourselves to the utmost to lower production costs in the areas where we are capable of achieving the greatest production. Thus, we will be able to compete in the international market in terms of both volume and prices. We must control the economic efficiency achieved by the state, private, and cooperative sectors. This economic efficiency, as I said before, should cover taxes and guarantee a profit. The productivity and feasibility of our enterprises play an important, decisive role.

These enterprises and work centers must be feasible for two reasons: First, they must be self-sufficient, and second, the surplus must be invested in social projects. That is why our new society requires not only sacrifices but the participation and efforts of all of you as well. The surplus is not only used to reinvest in our enterprises, but also in our society. We are not a country building a society of individuals or an individual sector. We are building a new society rather than a new enterprise, or another enterprise, or another sectors or sectors. We must exert ourselves together to carry out what is called the economic development of our society, the economic development of our society [repeats himself]. [Applause]

Within our limitations and our needs, we need...[rephrases] We must maintain the quality of our products, and this quality must be good in order to compete in foreign markets. I believe that Nicaraguan workers, despite their technical and scientific backwardness, are just as capable as workers in France and the United States, even though the latter have a higher technical and scientific level. [applause]

We are capable of producing high-quality products to compete in the international markets. However, we need to conserve materials, use our financial resources to a maximum, and exert ourselves to produce more to reach our internal and external goals. Enterprises working at a loss should become profitable and the profitable ones should contribute to achieving stability. Our salaries should be linked to savings, efficiency, quality, and the maximum use of raw materials. This is what we call revolution. [end recording]

COMMANDER CARRION ADDRESSES MISATAN ASSEMBLY

PA290347 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 28 Jan 85 pp 1, 10

[Text] "The Miskitos want peace, the Creoles want peace, the mestizos want peace, all the Nicaraguan people want peace. That is why we should fight for it and end the war," said Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion yesterday to an assembly of the Organization of Nicaraguan Miskitos [Misatan], which is evaluating its 6 months of existence and the problem of Atlantic coast autonomy.

Carrion pointed out that in the interest of that peace, the Government of Nicaragua is inviting the (Sulmalila) and (Tasbaraya) brothers who are still in Honduras to return home, where they will be given every guarantee and support from the authorities.

The Sandinist leader insisted that everyone should take part in the effort to reunify the Indian family, and exhorted the Miskitos in Misatan to convince their brothers now in Honduras and Costa Rica to lay down their arms. "They must be convinced that peace is possible," he pointed out.

Commander Carrion said: The war is a terrible thing; it brings suffering to the people. The communities who wish to return cannot do so because of it. The war has not solved the problems; it has worsened them. That is why the confrontation must be ended and bring peace.

Referring to those encouraging the war on the Atlantic coast, he said: They are deceiving the Indians by having involved them in war they will never win. He pointed out: "For 5 years, the United States, the most powerful nation on earth, has wanted to destroy the revolution, but it has failed to do so. That shows how invincible our process is."

The members of the national leadership, speaking before representatives of over 60 Miskito communities, praised the unifying work started by Misatan, and said that as long as the people of the Atlantic coast are united with the rest of the people of Nicaragua, they will be free and their problems will be solved. Divided, there will neither be peace, nor a solution, nor progress.

Carrion told the representatives of Misatan that the revolutionary government respects the native traditions of the Indians because it recognizes the different ethnic groups of the national territory. He recommended respect for the idiosyncracies of the residents of the Atlantic coast. He noted: "The people of the coast have the right to speak and express themselves freely in their tongues, to be educated in their tongues, to have recognition of their property in community lands, to benefit from natural resources, and to participate in the decisions that affect them."

He then indicated that autonomy now being discussed should guarantee all these historic rights, which had been taken away from the Nicaraguan people during the centuries of exploitation on the part of the oligarchy and foreign elements. However, he explained that as long as the state of war prevails in the region, it will be very difficult to achieve the desired autonomy because, first of all, it is necessary to achieve the peace that will unify the people of Nicaragua. He charged: "Those who claim that by dividing the people these objectives will be possible, are only trying to deceive the Indian population." He also referred to the talks with the Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity [Misurasata], which has taken up arms against the revolution, saying that these talks are the product of the Nicaraguan Government's desire for peace.

He recalled that the last round of the negotiations was not attended by Brooklyn Rivera, who was imposing conditions unacceptable to the revolutionary leadership, including the suspension of the armed actions of the Army against that counterrevolutionary organization. "That is precisely one of the points to be discussed, and we could not accept it as a condition for dialogue," he pointed out, although he acknowledged that the Nicaraguan Government remains determined to search for peace with the now defunct group that Rivera leads.

Commander Carrion, however, said that the search for peace is not limited to talks with Misurasata; it is the responsibility of all people of the Atlantic coast, including Misatan and the Miskitos who were deceived by the agent of imperialism, who says he does not want any settlement with the revolutionary government. But if the people support peace and if the leaders of Misurasata support peace, then those who now follow the leader of the Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas will also seek peace.

Finally, the ranking FSLN leader said that the heart of the revolutionaries is open to all, the same as the hope to work together day by day until becoming a single united community of Miskitos, mestizos, Creoles, Sumus, Ramas, and Garifunas. "If you continue united, like Misatan, this dream shall become a reality," the leader concluded.

PPSC'S DIAZ ON U.S. POLICY, CONSTITUTION, FSLN

PA252045 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Jan 85

["Direct Line" phone-in program with Mauricio Diaz, leader of the Popular Social Christian Party, PPSC, and PPSC deputy to the National Assembly, with unidentified mediator in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] Mauricio, what is your opinion about the Nicaraguan Government's efforts to peacefully resolve the Nicaraguan situation in view of the fact that the United States is to blame for disrupting the talks at Manzanillo. Moreover, we saw how they withdrew from the proceedings resulting from a Nicaraguan claim at the International Court of Justice in The Hague. We also saw how Reagan asked for more aid for the counterrevolutionaries headquartered in Honduran and Costa Rican territories.

[Diaz] It is evident that when it comes to specific actions to achieve peace, Nicaragua has shown its goodwill; that is indisputable. It is also evident that the U.S. withdrawal from The Hague could be a political action aimed at finding an opportunity to reestablish its political position as a superpower, as an imperialist country. It is probable that the withdrawal from The Hague will now lead to a U.S. attempt to strengthen the Contadora Group option; this is what I believe. So much for the case of The Hague.

In addition, we believe that for example, the Law on Industries, recently approved by the National Assembly, is another law aimed at seeking civilized options to solve national problems. However, we must also remember that as long as we...[rephrases] In this case, as long as the ruling party here does not implement specific steps leading to an effective democratization of Nicaragua, in keeping with the agreements of the summit of political parties, it will be very difficult to hold off a strategy that in my opinion is becoming independent from the internal political phenomenon of Nicaragua, that is the military strategy.

In fact, I believe that an old basic problem continues to exist: The United States is trying to destroy something it does not understand. In Nicaragua, we are promoting a revolutionary process which is also democratic.

No one can deny that the 4 November elections helped many other countries realize that we have political parties here such as the PPSC, which participated in the electoral campaign, that, with or without internal problems, have been applying pressure to ensure respect for the rules of the game that should be present in a Western democratic regime. Those rules are based on the participation of political parties and the right of those parties to organize, mobilize, and so on.

This necessarily involves our main tasks in the National Assembly: to draft a political constitution for the Republic. In this regard, I believe that sectors interested in finding immediate solutions to Nicaraguan problems should specifically advocate the drafting of the Republic's political constitution now instead of in 2 years, because it seems that the main concern of many countries is that they believe that the Nicaragua regime is not defined in terms of politics, economics, and so on. Therefore, in our opinion it is imperative and a priority to draft a constitution in order to take away this weapon from those who argue that Nicaragua is heading toward a totalitarian Marxist-Leninist model, and so on.

[Caller Luis Gutierrez from Matagalpa] Yes, Mr Diaz, as sympathizers of the PPSC, we are very surprised that you now favor the FSLN. This is my question: Don't you think that you are defending the FSLN and not the majority of Nicaraguan people, who are actually the ones who in practice defend the FSLN? Don't you think that the FSLN attitude has promoted war? Thank you very much, Mr Diaz.

[Diaz] My answer to that question is that the issue of favoritism has a simple origin. We have never committed the mistake made by rightist political parties, which only point out what is wrong. We also point out things which, from our viewpoint as a political party, have been healthy for our homeland's democratic institutional development.

As for the military phenomenon, I have clearly said that it has two great sources. First, the U.S. Government cannot tolerate [word indistinct] in a country having a government that is not to its liking. In addition, we believe that some social and internal phenomena have emerged here from the application of a bad government policy in some areas. This has promoted counterrevolutionary activity.

Therefore, we cannot only say that pointing out positive aspects of the Sandinist government constitutes favoritism. It is evident that our responsibility, if we want to be serious about this, is to strive to make an objective analysis without falling into personalized and individualist traps.

We will remind Nicaraguans about agreements signed and commitments made by all political parties that participated in the elections, including the ruling party, because political parties that did not participate are now claiming to take credit for them.

We signed commitments of profound value to our homeland's democratization process. They are contained in the agreements made during the summit of political parties. They involve citizen's rights, individual rights, rights of political parties, freedom of the press and speech, freedom of organization, freedom of movement and mobilization, and labor freedom and democracy. In fact, a Marxist-Leninist regime would not accept the elections that will be held here periodically; moreover, we will clearly specify this in the Republic's political constitution.

The fact that we will hold elections periodically does not mean that we will periodically have different governments. However, it is evident that in the eyes of a fairly knowledgeable person, the electoral results indicate that taboos no longer exist here.

The FSLN did not really prove to be the vanguard of the Nicaraguans. Any observer analyzing the figures would realize that the FSLN really and objectively obtained less than 50 percent of the electorate after some commanders had said that they would win the elections with more than 80 percent of the electorate.

CDN MISSION TO TOUR MEXICO, UNITED STATES

PA290216 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Jan 85 p 1, 12

[Text] On Monday, a delegation from the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] will begin Monday a 5-day tour of several cities in Mexico and the United States to meet with leaders of political parties and democratic entities. The leaders included in the delegation are Dr Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro, its president; Dr Andres Zuniga; and union leader Jose Espinosa Navas.

The tour responds to invitations from sectors interested in the Nicaraguan political scene, particularly those aspects related to the freedom of expression and the press, as well as the war situation in the country. At the same time, the democratic leaders will reveal the program of activities prepared by the Coordinating Board for 1985. The CDN will also try to strengthen ties with these democratic entities in Mexico and the United States.

Meanwhile, it was learned that another delegation of the Nicaraguan democratic sector is touring several European countries. The members of that delegation include Dr Luis Rivas Leiva, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party, and Ramiro Gurdian, president of the Union of Agriculture and Livestock Producers of Nicaragua. During the visit to these European nations, the delegation will meet with political parties and government officials.

MISKITOS, CONTRAS SURRENDER, SEEK AMNESTY

PA292209 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] A group of counterrevolutionaries murdered three Indians and kidnapped six others this weekend on the island of Rama Cay, 10 km from Bluefields. The counterrevolutionaries came to the island early on Saturday morning, and a clash ensued with members of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and the militia forces in the area. Three EPS soldiers were killed and two civilians were wounded. The contras kidnapped four men, one nurse, and one doctor who came to the community to vaccinate the people.

In addition, it was learned that approximately 67 Miskito Indians who had been involved in counterrevolutionary activities have now accepted the amnesty decree in various areas of the country. Likewise, 17 counterrevolutionaries turned themselves in this weekend to authorities in Wiwili and Ocotal.

ARDE SEEKS AID, DENIES NEW GROUP ORGANIZED

PA292109 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1814 GMT 29 Jan 85

[By Juan Ramon Rojas]

[Text] San Jose, 29 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), led by Eden Pastora, announced here that it has launched a diplomatic and political offensive in order to obtain aid to continue the military struggle in southern Nicaragua.

Jose Davila, who is in charge of ARDE'S political department, says he is unaware that a new anti-Sandinist group has been organized as a part of this offensive, as has been asserted in Washington.

According to the U. S. television network NBC, a new anti-Sandinist group has been organized as part of the efforts to unblock the Reagan administration's aid for the contras.

The group is allegedly led by Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, former codirector of Managua's newspaper LA PRENSA; Eden Pastora; and Arturo Cruz, former presidential candidate of the Democratic Coordinating Board (CDN).

Chamorro's relatives in San Jose, where he sought exile in December 1984, told this agency that Chamorro is in Washington and that his trip there, which should have concluded yesterday, has been extended for another 3 days due to last-minute developments.

For his part, Davila admitted that Pastora has been in Washington for the past 3 days, trying to obtain resources from private groups in order to continue the military activity in southern Nicaragua, and to explain the current situation of the armed struggle.

According to Davila, Pastora, also known as Commander Cero, met with Cruz because in addition to "their being good friends, both are worried over the deterioration of Nicaragua's political situation."

"We are concerned over the situation of our struggle in view of the course that certain countries are taking in their negotiations with Managua," Davila told ACAN-EFE, but he did not mention the names of these countries.

It is within this context that "the diplomatic and political offensive" has been launched. "The offensive seeks to explain many things connected with our receiving aid, which is now becoming complicated. If no aid arrives, the struggle will still continue, but it will be more prolonged," Davila added.

Davila asserted that the democratic governments have lost sight of the principal objective of the struggle in Nicaragua. According to him, this objective is "a people's decision to be free from an oppressive regime that offers peace abroad, but denies all freedoms to the people at home."

SEPMI CONFERENCE CONCLUDES IN HAVANA 29 JANUARY

Bulgarian Delegation Arrives

FL261420 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] Lieutenant General Georgi Kostov, chairman of the Bulgarian Defense Support Organization [DSO], is in Havana heading a DSO delegation. The Bulgarian delegation has come to Havana to participate as guests in the Second National Conference of the Society for Patriotic-Military Education, known as SEPMI. The Second National SEPMI Congress will begin on Monday in the capital of Cuba.

Hungarian Delegation Arrives

FL251616 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] A Hungarian delegation led by Brigadier General Lajos Kiss has come to Havana to attend a conference of SEPMI. Lajos Kiss is secretary general of the Hungarian Defense Association, an organization similar to SEPMI.

Group To Merge With UJC

FL231310 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Second National SEPMI Conference is scheduled to begin next Monday in Havana. This will conclude the process of incorporating SEPMI into the Union of Young Communists [UJC], which has been successfully carried out throughout the country and has already revealed its advantages. This was noted in a press conference by Colonel Arnaldo Tamayo, alternate member of the Central Committee and SEPMI president. Tamayo stressed the quality and depth of this process, which culminated in the provinces with the Guantanamo conference last Sunday.

Society's President Speaks

FL281844 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The Second National SEPMI Conference opened this morning at the Revolutionary Armed Forces' Universal Hall, with more than 360 delegates from around the country and representatives from similar organizations in 11 socialist countries attending. Jose Machado Ventura, Politburo member, presided over the meeting. Colonel Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez, SEPMI president, gave the main speech.

FAR Official Closes Conference

FL291256 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The work of SEPMI constitutes an important way of supporting the intensive task of defense, said Division General Abelardo Colome Ibarra, alternate Politburo member and first vice minister of the FAR. On giving the closing speech at the Second National SEPMI Conference, Colome Ibarra said this institution had especially contributed to the children's and youth's education in the principles and traditions of the people.

He added that for the second time SEPMI has held its conference on the anniversary of Jose Marti's birthday. He said that this was part of the tribute revolutionary youths pay Marti, who in his patriotism gave his life for independence and was the greatest Latin American philosopher of the last century. SEPMI National Council and Executive Committee members were introduced at the conference and Colonel Arnaldo Tamayo, alternate Central Committee member, was again voted in as president. Bonuses were also presented to the vanguard provinces for their work in SEPMI's fifth anniversary competition.

1985 TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

AU251904 Sofia BTA in English 1850 GMT 25 Jan 85

[By BTA correspondent]

[Text] Havana, January 25 (BTA) -- A protocol was signed here on the 1985 reciprocal trade between Bulgaria and Cuba. Cuba will receive from Bulgaria machines, equipment, foodstuffs, fertilizers and consumer goods. It will supply Bulgaria with sugar, citrus fruits, molasses and drinks. The protocol envisages that in 1985 the reciprocal trade grow by some 6 per cent as compared with 1984.

5-YEAR TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH HUNGARY

FL251948 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers, has been received by Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers, after participating as delegation head in the 13th meeting of the Cuban-Hungarian intergovernmental committee for economic, scientific, and technical Cooperation. At the end of the meeting, a protocol was signed for bilateral trade during the 1986-90 5-year period.

VISITING DPRK OFFICIAL RECEIVES KEY TO CITY

PA260450 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Oscar Fernandez Mell, president of the provincial assembly of the people's government in the city of Havana, gave the key to the city to [name indistinct], president of the people's committee of the city of Pyongyang, who is heading a DPRK delegation currently visiting Cuba. During the ceremony, Fernandez Mell stressed the long history of struggles of that Asian nation against domination by foreign dynasties and the aggression of capitalist powers, especially the United States.

ANPP OFFICIAL MENDEZ MOREJON VISITS MEXICO

FL290020 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2155 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 28 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] has said that, in the eyes of the world, Mexico has become a symbol of peace, which is proved by Mexico's international peacekeeping initiatives to avoid a holocaust. The head of the ANPP's International Relations Department, Luis Mendez Morejon, said the foregoing was exemplified by Mexico's participation in the New Delhi disarmament summit, which manifests the worldwide cry for lasting peace. Mendez Morejon is in Mexico on an 8-day working visit during which he will meet with his Mexican counterparts. Morejon said: At the present time, worldwide social peace is a necessity because, apart from the economic problems facing most nations, a war would mean the destruction of many peoples.

When interviewed on the Central American conflict, the Cuban official said the government of Fidel Castro has always supported all the Contadora Group's peace initiatives and considers the Contadora Group the only chance for economic, political, and social stability in the region. He reiterated that if a Central American peace agreement is signed, Cuba is prepared to support and assume all responsibilities stemming from such an agreement, in the understanding that to achieve peace it is necessary to encourage the development of the peoples of the area.

Meets Leader; Hails Contadora

FL291754 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Leader of Mexico's Chamber of Deputies Humberto Lugo has met with a delegation of Cuban deputies in Mexico City and discussed bilateral matters and the Central American crisis. The Cuban delegation is headed by Luis Mendez Morejon, and includes Augusto Fajardo, president of Holguin Province Assembly of the People's Government, and Mirta Morales. At a press conference at the Mexico City airport, Morejon reaffirmed Cuba's complete support toward the Contadora Group, and said that his country would do everything possible to help achieve peace through dialogue.

SOVIET CRUISE SHIP ARRIVES IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA

FL281918 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] The Soviet cruise ship Shota Rustavezi made a port call in Santiago de Cuba yesterday morning with 550 FRG tourists on board who stayed in the city for 8 hours. This stop was made due to an agreement between FRG tour operator (John Rissing) and the National and International Tourist Enterprise, which has scheduled the arrival of seven cruise ships in Cuba in 1985; four of which will stop at Santiago de Cuba port. The Santiago de Cuba tourist enterprise was in charge of attending the tourists.

CARLOS RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH SOVIET SCIENTIST

FL251928 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with the vice president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Yuriy Ovchinnikov. At the meeting, the outstanding Soviet scientist told the Cuban vice president about cooperation of the USSR Academy of Sciences with Cuba in different areas, such as biology and social sciences, which will enhance Cuba's economic development.

RADIO NOTES RUMORS OF COUP IN GUATEMALA

FL301212 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] New changes in Guatemala's military leadership, announced in Guatemala City, have been viewed as symptoms of a coup d'etat. A right-wing Guatemalan deputy said the removal of two top military officers is an attempt by the governing clique to neutralize dissatisfaction within the military leadership. This report coincides with recent statements by Christian Democrat presidential candidate Vinicio Cerezo, who has said he sees indications of a forthcoming coup in Guatemala.

OAS TO PROVIDE $20 MILLION FOR CARIBBEAN PROJECTS

FL291444 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The Organization of American States [OAS] is setting aside some $20 million for assistance projects in the Caribbean. The funds will be used over the next 2 years, according to OAS Assistant Secretary General Val McComie. Mr McComie made the announcement as he addressed the opening of the third OAS coordination meeting for Caribbean countries and Suriname, now going on in Trinidad. He referred to the goals that came from last summer's Caricom meeting in Nassau and said that the funds would be used to further some of those goals.

BARBADOS

GOVERNMENT PLEDGES TO SUPPORT SUGAR INDUSTRY

FL300150 Bridgetown CANA in English 2319 GMT 29 Jan 85

[By Ervine Reid]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 29, CANA -- The Barbados Government today gave financially-strapped sugar producers here the assurance that it will not abandon the industry, which last year earned more than 60 million dollars in hard currency. The assurance came as the government sought parliamentary approval for guaranteeing repayment of 15 million dollars (one Bds dollar: 50 cents U.S., to be raised on the bond market for the largely private sector company that manages the sugar industry.

Agriculture Minister Dr Richard Cheltenham, presenting the government's case, said that even though the crisis in the industry was deepening, a high level of unemployment, multi-million dollar foreign exchange earnings, and the threat of large-scale soil erosion made it still very important. He told the House of Assembly that the bonds are designed to raise money in the local money market to pay growers and processors in relation to the 1984 sugar crop. The first issue, which was raised three years ago, was for 17 million dollars, the second for 10 million dollars, and this 1985 issue will be for 15 million dollars, he told the House.

Dr Cheltenham said that as a foreign exchange earner its role has fallen from one of pride of place as dominance to one of support only, but its contribution must not be sneezed at as a hand currency earner, for last year it earned us in excess of 60 million dollars. The minister said the sugar industry's employment generating capacity has fallen from 21,500, 25 years ago, to 6,000-7000 at the height of the reaping season today.

On the ecological importance of sugar, he said without cane, Barbados would from an environmental viewpoint become an absolute waste land. The minister said a steady decline in earnings had plunged the industry into a financial crisis and threatened the liquidity of the banking system.

Dr Cheltenham presented the case for greater agricultural diversification. He said: We must rotate virtually on every plantation profitable non-sugar crops such as onions, peanuts, and cotton with sugar. He continued: The agronomic work is going on apace to ensure that in the shortest space of time we have the answers to the problems posed by these crops, where best in the island they can be grown.

He stressed that government wanted to continue playing a key role in the industry's survival. Government as marketer of sugar and as shareholder in Barbados Sugar Industries Limited on behalf of the small growers, and as custodian and promoter of our best national interests, will continue to support the industry and lead the way in devising a new farm policy where sugar will be the principal one of a variety of crops, the minister said.

DOMINICA

OPPOSITION LEADER JOSEPH MAY NAME NEW SENATORS

FL290212 Bridgetown CANA in English 1846 GMT 26 Jan 85

[By Ellsworth Carter]

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 26, CANA -- Thirty-five-year-old Carib descendant Matthew Joseph, appointed this week as Dominica's first parliamentary opposition leader in almost five years, today said he was considering naming new senators, as the main opposition Labour Party of Dominica (LPD) to which he belongs cried foul over his appointment. As opposition leader, Joseph is entitled to appoint four senators and name persons to sit on the Electoral Commission, as provided for in the Constitution.

In the absence of an opposition leader after the 1980 election, the president named four senators, and political sources here said at least two of these appointments are likely to be reviewed. After the last poll, none of the four opposition parliamentarians was able to command the majority support needed to become opposition leader.

Joseph's surprise appointment Thursday came three days after he and two LPD colleagues wrote President Clarence Seignoret endorsing former Finance Minister Michael Douglas for the post. Douglas is leader of the newly-formed LPD. But the two other opposition parliamentarians, both independents, subsequently threw their support behind Joseph and, with his help, were able to secure the appointment of the representative of the Salybia Constituency, where descendants of the Caribs, Dominica's indigenous people, live.

In a statement today, the Labour Party said Joseph was not suitable for the job and accused the ruling Freedom Party of Prime Minister Eugenia Charles of complicity in the appointment. This disgusting manipulation of our Constitution to rob our people of effective opposition highlights the constant drift towards dictatorship which has been taking place in Dominica since the Freedom Party was now able to totally control the Electoral Commission in a year in which general elections are constitutionally due. The party said it would hold a series of public meetings across Dominica to air its concerns on the issue.

But Joseph says he will be an effective opposition leader. I shall not fail to vigorously oppose whatever legislation I think is not in the best interest of the country. I shall do so in the interest of the country as a whole, Joseph said in a statement.

GRENADA

BLAIZE CALLS FOR MARSHALL PLAN FOR COUNTRY

FL292030 Bridgetown CANA in English 2013 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 29, CANA -- Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, who says Grenada in some ways resembles war-devastated Europe, has recommended for the island the type of post-World War Two economic reconstruction plan the United States organised for Western Europe. Blaize, whose pro-American New National Party (NNP) was voted into power last December after nearly five years of left-wing rule, said the things we have inherited are so devastated that I think we can compare this Grenada situation with the kind of situation that faced Europe after the end of the second world war. Grenada's roads were in a terrible state, public buildings in need of proper maintenance, and the telephone and water services in need of improvement, Blaize said in a radio broadcast last night.

He noted that, under its Marshall Plan, the United States had poured millions of dollars into Europe to rebuild the economy, and that Europe had reached the point where it was a major international aid donor.

We call for a kind of Marshall Plan for Grenada, he said, and that means we are going to get people to understand that they must give us a hand-up and not a handout so that our dignity would be maintained and our self-respect would be enhanced. He added: We would move forward with that kind of incentive, knowing that we are going upwards to be able to help others one day.

Blaize said that his seven-week-old government had been reviewing a number of proposals put forward by investors interested in doing business in Grenada. Several of these proposals were said to have been looked at by an interim government in place from November 1983 to early December 1984. Some businessmen had had their projects approved but decided to wait until the outcome of the December 3 general elections, Blaize disclosed. Those who had been waiting had decided to go ahead with their investments, said Blaize, and even the American computer company, Key Universal, which closed down operations here during the four-and-a-half years of the leftist People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), had decided to return. He said this company was interested in hiring about 64 women, and that another private sector concern dealing with fruits and vegetables was to come on stream, providing direct employment for at least 40 persons and a number of spin-off jobs through the setting up of supply farms.

He remarked that the island was preparing for these investors and that, with the assistance of several institutions, we are getting our industrial estates really going. In addition, factory shells would be made available through the help of the United States Agency for International Development (U.S. AID), a loan from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), and a private sector initiative.

Prime Minister Blaize also said that in the area of hotel expansion, several offers have been made by investors, and the government was now working on these.

JAMAICA

SEAGA CLAIMS COMMUNISTS BEHIND DEMONSTRATIONS

FL291740 Bridgetown CANA in English 1702 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 29, CANA -- Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga has suggested that two days of sometimes violent islandwide demonstrations against petrol price increases earlier this month were inspired by communists to sabotage the economy. Angry Jamaicans on January 15 and 16 blocked roads and used the shells of old motor cars and debris to burn bonfires after the government hiked gasolene by 21 per cent and announced varying increases for other fuels.

Evidence of sabotage and damage to the economy as a result of the recent demonstrations has now reached such proportions that the country must now be told of the extremes to which the organisers went to try to jeopardise the economy of Jamaica, the official JAMPRESS news agency quoted Seaga as telling ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) officials Sunday.

The prime minister said there was destruction of utility poles that caused power outages in several sections of western Jamaica, the burning of cane fields and the bonfires in the streets -- all of which was highly reminiscent of the strategies set out in the communist handbook on how to sabotage an economy. Foreign media coverage of the demonstrations had caused 15,000 room cancellations in the tourist industry, the prime minister said. He claimed that targets were well selected to ensure that the impact would be heavy in foreign exchange losses by attacking tourism and sugar.

FORBES BURNHAM ADDRESSES PNC'S GENERAL COUNCIL

FL290200 Bridgetown CANA in English 2139 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 27, CANA -- Guyana's president, Forbes Burnham, has told state-paid managers not to tolerate inefficiency among employees. Addressing the General Council of his People's National Congress (PNC) last night, he said: Managers must not tolerate inefficiency by any worker, whether he is a party member or not. He also said managers were free to remove them (the inefficient) if they are not functioning. Burnham added: Your functions are to place workers in the public sector who are under your charge in positions where they are needed and where they can produce, and not to be afraid to remove the inefficient, regardless of their political affiliation. Burnham told the estimated 1,000 delegates at the Sophia Auditorium, on the eastern outskirts of Georgetown, that in the public sector there are some workers who are over-worked, and some are either under-worked or not worked at all. He said: Surplus workers who are not functioning can be sent to other areas. In his two and a quarter hour address, the PNC leader also touched on foreign affairs. He said: There is a studied programme being carried out to isolate Guyana within the Caribbean Community (Caricom). But let them know that our country is the only one in Caricom which showed real growth, even though it was two per cent, in 1984.

PPP DISCUSSES POSSIBLITY OF MEETING WITH PNC

FL281540 Bridgetown CANA in English 2005 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 27, CANA -- The executive committee of the opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) was meeting today to discuss the possibility of talks with the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) that took most Guyanese by surprise. The talks between President Forbes Burnham's PNC and former Premier Dr Cheddi Jagan's Marxist PPP were proposed by the PNC. Dr Jagan said: We are meeting to study this important matter and will issue a statement tomorrow afternoon. The agenda for the meeting was not spelled out by Dr Jagan, who has been calling for the establishment of a national patriotic front government. The PNC's invitation to the PPP for discussions came as a surprise because the opposition party is one of the severest critics of the ruling party.

DEPORTEES FROM SURINAME REQUEST GOVERNMENT AID

FL291434 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Some 1,800 Guyanese deported suddenly from neighboring Suriname claimed to have left millions of guilders in assets behind and they want help from the Guyanese Government to recover their money and property. The Suriname Government a week ago held a massive housecleaning campaign that resulted in the arrest and deportation of about 5,000 illegal aliens. For years Guyanese had been crossing the border into Suriname in search of jobs. Following last week's operation, the Paramaribo government said they had no work visas and deported them at their own expense. A number of Haitians, Chinese, and Dutch were also deported.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

SECRETARY DISCUSSES MEETING WITH CUBA'S CASTRO

FL291842 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO 16 Jan 85 pp 1, 13

[By Maximo Manuel Perez]

[Excerpt] Secretary of State of the Presidency Hatuey de Camps announced yesterday that Cuban President Fidel Castro, with whom Decamps met in Nicaragua, showed interest in establishing diplomatic relations with the Dominican Republic. De Camps, who gave details of his recent trip to Nicaragua, also said Castro expressed interest in the Dominican economic situation and referred to the measures being taken by the Cuban Government to confront its economic crisis. De Camps said he told the Cuban president that foreign affairs matters are handled exclusively by President Salvador Jorge Blanco, although he noted that the Dominican Republic and Cuba have maintained very good relations in sports and artistic matters. This is the second time in a year that the Cuban Government has discussed bilateral diplomatic reltions with the Dominican authorities. In January 1984, when Jorge Blanco visited Ecuador for the First Latin American Economic Conference, Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez stated: "I have had the opportunity for a frank and very open exchange with the president of the Dominican Republic and we have spoken about relations between the two countries." De Camps was heading an official Dominican delegation attending the inauguration of President Daniel Ortega. The delegation also included Reformist Party Senator from La Vega Province, Fausto Sicard Moya; Dominican Ambassador to Nicaragua Julio Cesar Martinzez; and the embassy's counselor, Roger Orgando.

COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICES SEARCHED; MORE PROTESTS

FL301234 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] In the Dominican Republic, security forces yesterday ransacked the offices of the Communist Party in two cities and youths burned tires in the poor section of Santo Domingo protesting cost of living increases. Police continue to occupy poor neighborhoods in the capital, where only scattered incidents of tire burning were reported yesterday. On Monday, hundreds of people were arrested in day-long protests over price increases. News reports quoted a spokesman for the Communist Party in Santo Domingo as saying police had removed all furniture, typewriters, books, and papers from party offices and burned them in the street. Police were also reported to have burned furnishings at the Communist Party headquarters in the town of Mao, 219 km north of Santo Domingo.

ECUADOR

POPE ARRIVES IN QUITO; WELCOMED BY PRESIDENT

PA300035 Paris AFP in Spanish 2308 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Quito, 29 Jan (AFP) -- Pope John Paul II arrived in Quito today at 1756 from Venezuela, thus beginning in Ecuador the second leg of his pastoral tour through Latin America, which will include Peru and Trinidad and Tobago. In a traditional gesture, the pope kissed Ecuadoran soil upon stepping down from the plane. He was greeted with a 21-gun salute and welcomed by President Leon Febres Cordero, the church hierarchy, officials, and the diplomatic corps. Following the ceremonial reception, during which he received honors due his high office, John Paul II climbed into the papal automobile to go to the metropolitan cathedral in Quito's colonial downtown sector. He was greeted by an enthusiastic crowd that lined the 10-km route. At the cathedral the pope will meet with bishops, priests, other religious people, and seminarans, and will then go to the Government Palace for an official visit with President Febres Cordero. Finally, the pope will go to the apostolic nuncio's office, where he will spend his first night in Ecuador. This is the first time a pope has visited Ecuador.